

140 TOP STYLES

35 FAB YARNS

30 TECHNIQUES

July 2007 Issue 39

£3.75 (\$10.95 Can)

Knitting

Summer STYLE

14 knits for fun
in the sun

Quick projects

- Knitted Roland Rabbit
- Retro Chic clutch bag
- Mexican Wave table set
- Calypso headband & belt

Try it today

- Make fancy stitches
- Create novelty edgings

Easy knits for little kids

Exclusive interview with
Catherine Tough

Design & Win!

5 Alpaca kits up for
grabs in our animal
knits competition

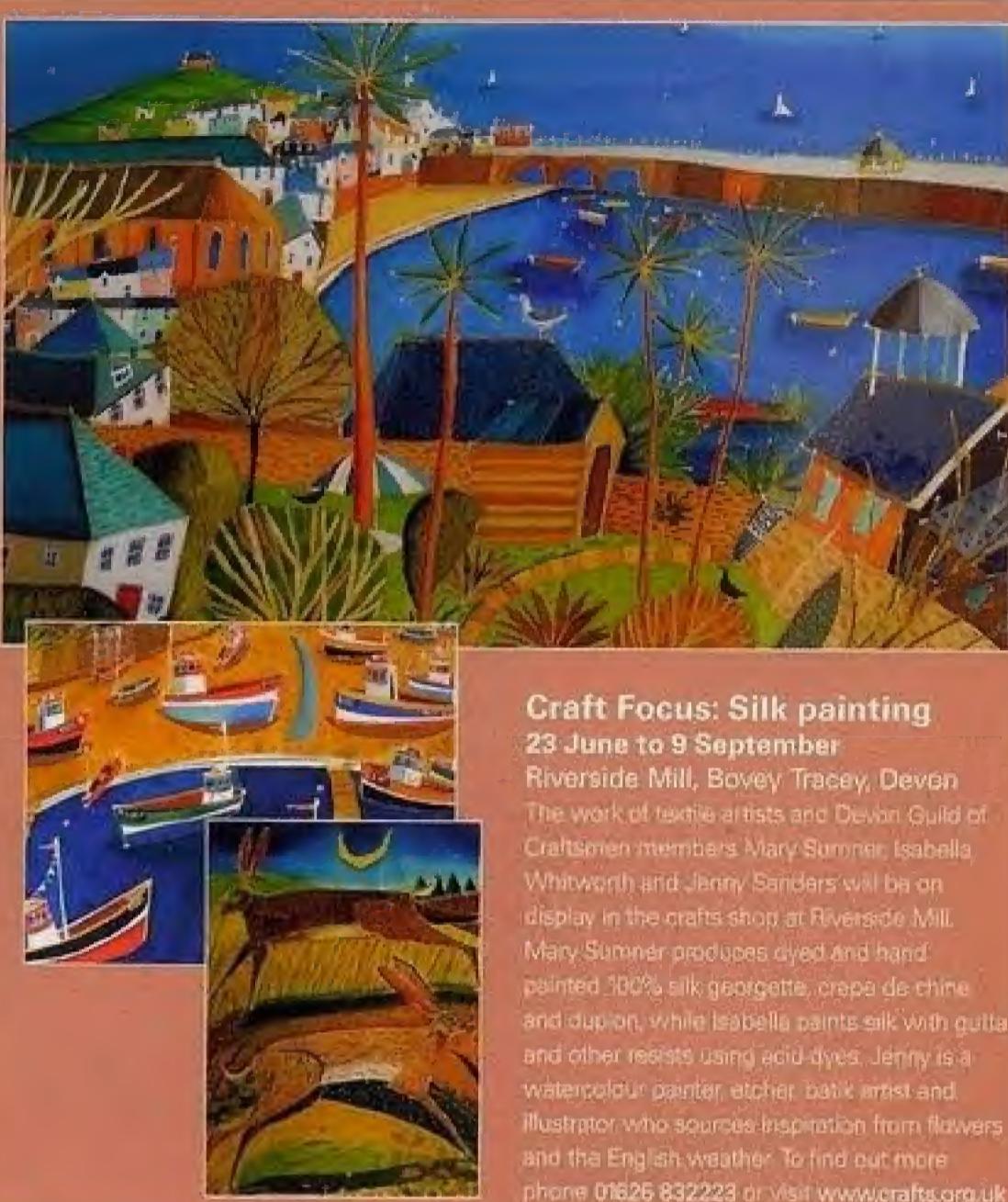


www.thegmcgroup.com



A GMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE
073
97814070694019

Events Diary by Emma Brown



Craft Focus: Silk painting

23 June to 9 September

Riverside Mill, Bovey Tracey, Devon

The work of textile artists and Devon Guild of Craftsmen members Mary Sumner, Isabella Whiteworth and Jenny Sanders will be on display in the crafts shop at Riverside Mill. Mary Sumner produces dyed and hand-painted 100% silk georgette, crepe de chine and dupion, while Isabella paints silk with gutta and other resists using acid dyes. Jenny is a watercolour painter, etcher, book artist and illustrator who sources inspiration from flowers and the English weather. To find out more phone 01626 832223 or visit www.crafts.org.uk

Colinette Workshop: Crochet Throw with Liz Trowe

4 August

Banwy Workshop, Powys, Wales

Liz has been teaching crochet locally for many years, and on this course she will take you through the basic to intermediate stitches and steps for making a throw. You will create a simple motif and explore different ways to turn and join it into functional items. The mill shop will be open from 9.30am to 4.15pm for you to browse, and tea and coffee will be available on arrival. The course is £40 and includes a light lunch, plus all participants will receive a goody bag. For more information phone 01938 810 128 or log on to www.colinette.com

South London Textile Workshop Exhibition

7 August to 7 September

East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, Surrey

The South London Textile Workshop will hold

a display of work ranging from knitting, crochet and tapestry weaving to beading and felt work which will move on to Bletchingly, Surrey between September and October. For further information phone 0208 659 6997 or email lindseypgreen@hotmail.com

Knitterati Knit & Natter Meeting

8 August, 5 September, 3 October,

7 November and 5 December

Great Gate, Staffordshire Moorlands

The Knitterati Knit and Natter group meet for an informal session on the first Wednesday of every month and you can drop in and stay for as long as you like. You will have the opportunity to learn to knit or crochet and there is no charge for tuition. Anyone who visits can purchase yarn, browse through pattern books, exchange ideas and enjoy a break from the routine in an idyllic rural setting. To find out more phone 01889 507 552 or email carol@knitterati.com

Bead Knitting: Traditional to Contemporary

18 to 25 August

Higham Hall, Cockermouth, Cumbria

Ruth Lee will teach participants how to incorporate beads into their work as they knit, with rich textures and patterns evolving from decorative techniques. There will be a special emphasis on making contemporary edgings and braids for detachable cuffs, hand coverings and neckpieces. Many beads can be used including the traditional varieties, brass nuts, copper washers or any handmade types if you wish to focus on interior applications or sculptural pieces.

For more details, phone 01768 776 276 or visit www.highamhall.com

New Season Coffee Morning

22 August

John Lewis, Welwyn, Herts

This coffee morning is a chance to see all the new brochures and yarns from Rowan and Jaeger accompanied by a full presentation and garments to try on between 10.30am and 1.30pm. Phone 01707 323456 ext 4247 for more information.



Chilterns Craft Show

24 to 27 August

Stonor Park, Henley-on-Thames

Step into a world of creative and contemporary crafts displayed by over 250

individual makers and craftspeople from all over Britain. Exciting hands-on demonstrations and workshops are included in the show and the popular Antiques Valuation Team will be offering their free expertise once again. Visitors also have the opportunity to shop for unusual and unique gifts, fashion, jewellery, furniture and much more. For more details phone 01425 272 711 or log on to www.ichf.co.uk

knitting

Issue 40 August on sale 12 July!



Sophia from: Debbie Bliss 'Rialto'. Yarn: Rialto in Slate.

Debbie Bliss

for details of local stockists please contact
designer yarns limited
tel: 01535 664222
www.designeryarns.uk.com

designer yarns

dy

We love...

Websites with attitude

<http://www.apatos.com>,
<http://www.croddress.com>
<http://www.etsy.com>
<http://www.knitterati.com>
<http://www.knittingandcrochet.co.uk>

Festival season

Glastonbury to Glasgow Jazz Festival, the Heineken-Celtic Festival to T in the Park: something for every music taste, so dig out your tents.

Barely-there make up

Add a classy glow with nude lips and peachy skin.

Bangles and bracelets

Rattle your jewellery

Classic screen heroines

Forget Sienna – Marilyn Monroe, Betty Grable, Jean Harlow and Grace Kelly are our true style icons.

One-piece swimming costumes

Suddenly cool again, and much more forgiving than bikinis.

We hate...

Maxi dresses

Far too Abigail's Party for our liking.

Neon

Bright is one thing, looking like an Eighties aerobics instructor is quite another.

Designer sunglasses

You know you're only going to sit on them.

Perspex shoes

Surely a little, er, sweaty?

Knitting on the beach

Sand? Ice cream? Kids? Read a book instead!



WHAT DO YOU THINK IS HOT OR NOT? EMAIL KATIEA@THEGMCROUP.COM

What's hot Beyond the pale

This summer we love neutral shades and natural textures. By Katie Allen



Machja Emma Set

£52.90 www.bynature.co.uk
0208 488 3556



Statement sunglasses collection

£4-6 per pair
www.internationale.co.uk



Summer collection from Debenhams



Converse All Star
Hi-top sneakers £30
Key to my Heart
Sunglasses £10
www.dollydagger.co.uk



Circle resin mobile

by Chan Andreassend
£17.99
www.modamuse.com



Tapa ceramic heart

by Chan Andreassend
£31.40 www.modamuse.com

Debut empire gown £100, Debut metallic sandals £35

www.debenhams.com, 08445 61 61 61



Six fluffy sheep card £2.84

www.pennylindop.com,
penny@pennylindop.com

Fresh Handmade

Soaps, £2.85 each,
www.freshhandmadesoaps.co.uk

Quick question

Anya Hindmarch –
hot or not?
Email
katiea@thegmcgroup.com

TOP KNITS

This month: Sue Morgan
of www.getknitted.com

Felting is definitely a growing trend, especially bags as they make quick and effective projects. We sell a lot of **Noni bag** patterns – a stunning collection of fun and usually flowery designs. **Cascade 220** is also a popular range and not just for felting! With a huge palette of shades it is an excellent Aran weight pure wool yarn and very well priced at £4.99 for 100g. The **Brown Sheep** range of yarns from the US is also great for felting and we are constantly re-ordering to keep the shelves stocked up.

Laceweight yarn is still all the rage and we sell a lot of **Fiber Trends** and **Heart Strings** shawl patterns. Unusual fibres are always popular, in particular **Hand Maiden Sea Silk** yarns.

Hand dyed yarns are still selling well and **Lorna's Laces**, **Fyberspates** and **Fleece Artist** sock yarns are top of most customers' lists.

For softness you can't beat **Blue Sky Alpaca**'s range of yarns. Their organic cotton is like knitting with butter and the Alpaca silk blend is to die for, with an excellent selection of patterns.

Rowan Cotton Glace continues to be our best selling cotton yarn, ideal for summer tops and keeping cool in the warm weather.

Hand Maiden Yarn Sea Silk
£15.99/skein

Blue Sky Alpaca 'Sport Weight' yarn £5.95/hank

ALPACA
ALL PATTERNS COURTESY OF GETKNITTED.COM



Noni Felted Bag Patterns
approx £6



Brown Sheep
yarns from £5.99/skein



Cascade 220
from £4.99/skein



Rowan Cotton Glace
£3.80/skein



Lorna's Laces
approx £6.50/skein



Iras

from Rowan Studio 01484
www.knitrowan.com
01484 680050



Woven summer bags
from £22,
Hammam beach towel £10
Sequinned sandals £30

www.thewhitecompany.com,
0870 900 9555



Tweed Coat

from Jo Sharp
Summer in Full Bloom
www.josharp.com.au

Rosa and Pia patterns
from Jaeger (JB43)

www.knitrowan.com
01484 680050

*Sublime*TM



The most exquisite, natural yarns.
The most beautiful, soft colours.
The most inspirational designs.

We call it ... Sublime.

Coming soon ... in early July

The second little Sublime hand knit book 606

Call Sublime to find your nearest stockist

t 01924 389666 f 01924 280506 e contactus@sublimeyarns.com

The Sublime knitting helpline: 01924 231686

THIS MONTH'S KNITTING GALLERY

Fashion



SHRUB
Main page 14
Pattern page 66
RYC Baby Alpaca DK



CABLE WAISTCOAT
Main page 15
Pattern page 67
Madeira or any fine metallic yarn



BREEZE
Main page 16
Pattern page 71
Sirdar Luxury Soft Cotton 4ply



MALIBU
Main page 17
Pattern page 72
Drops Paris

Quick



CALYPSO BELT & HEADBAND
Main page 18
Pattern page 74
Adriafil Cheope



CLUTCH BAG
Main page 19
Pattern page 75
Bloomsbury Gimp Bourdon Cord

Home



MEXICAN WAVE
Main page 20 & 21
Pattern page 78
Rowan Cotton Glace



DIAGONAL BABY BLANKET
Main page 22
Pattern page 76
Sirdar Snuggly Baby Bamboo DK



Fun



ROLAND RABBIT
Main page 23
Pattern page 78
Wendy Darling DK



Mini



SHERBET DIP HOODIE
Main page 24
Pattern page 79
Sirdar Snuggly Bubbly



VIOLET CARDI
Main page 25
Pattern page 80
Patons Diploma Gold 4ply



BIRTHDAY TREAT
Main page 26 & 27
Pattern page 82
Oddments of yarn

FOR YARN STOCKIST INFORMATION SEE PAGE 84

Photography by
David Baird,
Laurel Guilfoyle,
Simon Punter
Fashion stylist
Saga Chong Kwan
Make-up artist
Candice Konig

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Charleston
Firle, Lewes, East Sussex
BN8 6LL
Tel: 01323 811265
Web: www.charleston.org.uk

SPECIAL OFFER:
Show page 1 of Knitting and
claim £2 off the Charleston
guide book (normal price £5).



A woman with long dark hair tied back, wearing a shrub cropped cardigan over a patterned top, stands outdoors. She is leaning against a weathered wooden post. The background is a lush green garden.

SHRUB CROPPED CARDIGAN

Wrap up in luxury on a cool summer night in this soft and simple cardi from RYC Classic Alpaca Yarn, RYC Baby Alpaca DK. Pattern page 66.

CABLE WAISTCOAT

Add some glimmer
to your wardrobe
with this stunningly
chic knit from
Glamour
by Erika Knight
Yarn: Madeira or
any other fine
metallic yarn
Pattern page 67



**BREEZE****VEST TOP**

This quick and versatile vest is a classic cool casual.
By Sirdar
Yarn: Sirdar Luxury Cotton 4ply
Pattern page 71

THIS PAGE:

Beige trousers, £49,
Hat, £20, Scarf, £15,
from Nola Nola,
Gardner Street, Brighton,
01273 818 133;
www.nolanola.com
Apple charm pendant
necklace by Rachel Essex,
£58, 07932 678 132;
www.garden-boutique.com

OPPOSITE:

Green stone and charm
necklace by Alice Eden,
£65, 07932 678 132;
www.garden-boutique.com
Denim shorts by See
by Chloe, £124 from Nola,
Church Street, Brighton,
01273 726 555;
www.nolaboutique.co.uk
Brown sandals by Malene
Birger, £160 from Nola,
Church Street, Brighton;
01273 726 555;
www.nolaboutique.co.uk

MALIBU
CROCHET
HALTERNECK
Give your wardrobe
a dash of colour
with this pretty
top by Drops
Yarn: *Drops Paris*
Pattern page 72



Wendy
YARNS

PURE



Thomas B. Ramsden & Co. (Bfd) Ltd

Tel: 01943 872264 Web: www.tbramsden.co.uk e-mail: sales @tbramsden.co.uk

Leaflet 5356

BELT AND

HEADBAND

These stunning accessories will finish off your look.

By Fiona Morris

Yarn: Adriafil

Pattern page 74



THIS PAGE:

Dress, Robe Amanda, £105, ba&sh, from Nola, Church Street, Brighton, 01273 726 555; www.nolaboutique.co.uk

OPPOSITE:

White short trousers by Malene Birger, £120, from Nola, Black shoes, £85, French Connection, White top, California American Vintage, £65 from Nola, Church Street, Brighton, 01273 726 555; www.nolaboutique.co.uk

CLUTCH BAG
Set your eveningwear off with this up-to-the-minute clutch bag by Chrissie Day
*Yarn: Pav! Yarns
Retro Gimp
Pattern page 75*





MEXICAN WAVE
PLACEMATS AND
COASTERS

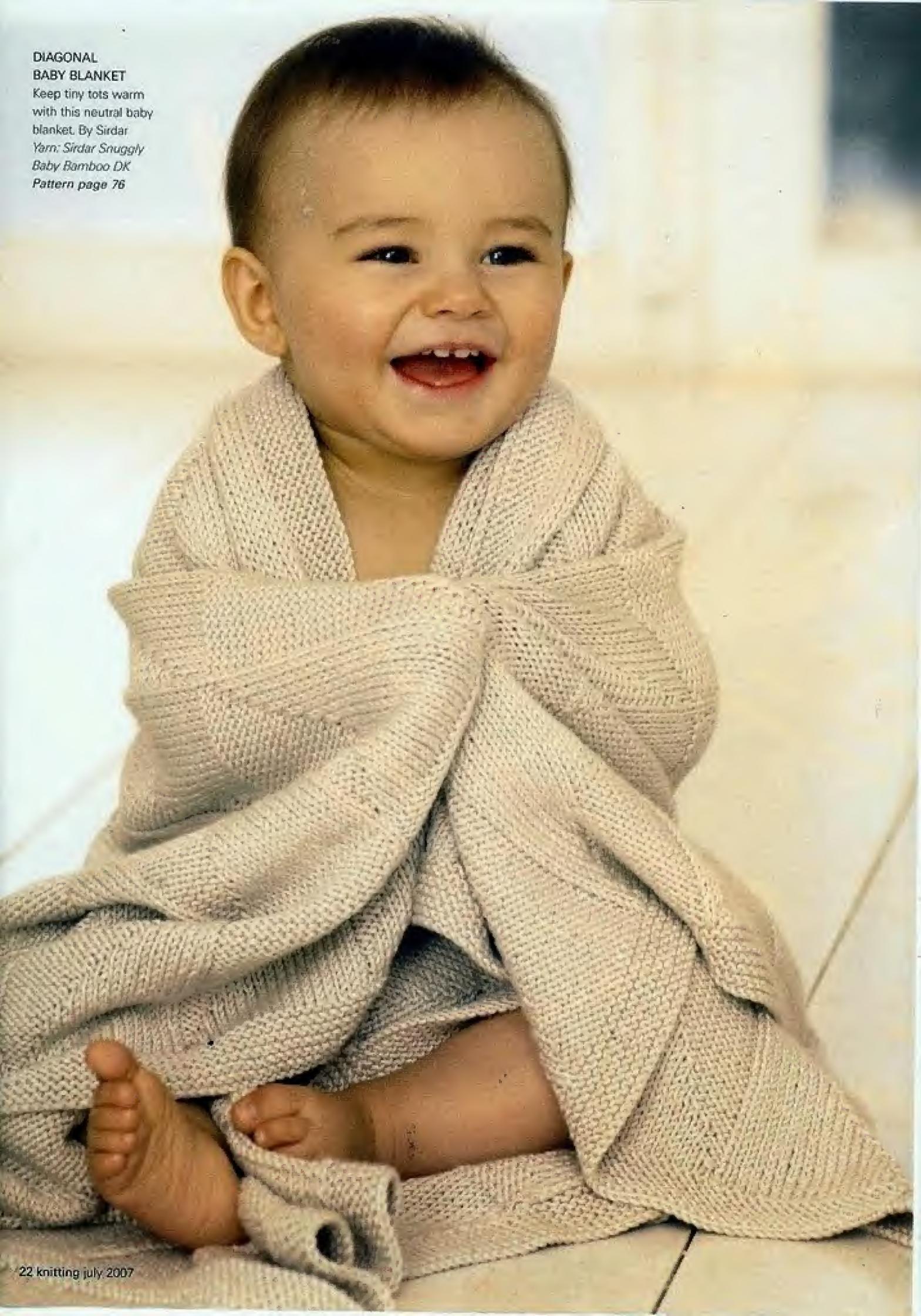
Tasty food will look
a treat on this
striking tableware.
By Alison Dupernex
Yarn: Rowan
Cotton Glace
Pattern page 78



DIAGONAL

BABY BLANKET

Keep tiny tots warm
with this neutral baby
blanket. By Sirdar
Yarn: Sirdar Snuggly
Baby Bamboo DK
Pattern page 76



ROLAND RABBIT
Knit this cuddly
bunny for a great
gift or keep him
for yourself!
Yarn: Wendy
Darling DK
Pattern page 78





SHERBET DIP HOODIE

Girls will look cute in this fluffy striped top by Val Pierce
Yarn: Sirdar Snuggly Bubbly and Sirdar Snuggly DK
Pattern page 80



VIOLET
WRAPOVER
CARDIGAN
This pretty pastel knit
is the perfect choice
for a party dress.
By Patons
Yarn: *Patons Diploma*
Gold 4ply
Pattern page 81

BIRTHDAY TREAT

KNITTED CARDS

Be extra creative
today and make
these extra special
birthday cards.

By Val Pierce

*Yarn: Oddments
of left over yarn*

Pattern page 83

Happy Birthday



Val Pierce



Val Pierce





Editor's letter

Kate Taylor [Editor kate.taylor@thegmgroup.com](mailto:kate.taylor@thegmgroup.com)

Charleston of course – the artwork is inspiring and they do great teas there!



Get to know your team at Knitting Magazine

Ask us a question each month: karet@thegmgroup.com

This month's question asked by Jack Johnson

If you could knit anywhere outdoors, where would it be?



Emma Brown
Deputy Editor
emma.brown@thegmgroup.com

Anywhere with torrential rain – it's my favourite weather.



Katie Allen
Assistant Editor
katie.allen@thegmgroup.com

In a nice (non muddy) field at Glastonbury Festival.



Carol Chambers
Pattern Editor
carol.chambers@rhworld.com

In my garden with my dog beside me.



Claire Stevens
Designer
In my back garden away from distractions and a glass of wine to hand.



Emma Kennedy
Advertising Sales
emma.kennedy@thegmgroup.com
01273 402 807

In the Kulu Valley foothills of the Himalayas. It's beautiful there.

Welcome to Knitting

Add beads to your knitting this month and make an exclusive **Fiona Morris** belt and headband to suit the romantic fashions this year. You'll find it easy with Fiona's pattern plus 'how to' article. Floaty summer frocks set off the headband and we like the belt worn either at the waist or just under the bust – the choice is yours!

Small accessories like this make great travel projects. Our other quick knit is the beautiful Retro clutch bag, designed exclusively for us by **Chrissie Day**. Chrissie has made quite a name for herself and also designed the trendy black and white felted bags sold as knitting kits by Twilleys, as seen in last month's What's Hot.

I caught up with young supermom **Catherine Tough**, who has just published a lively new book, Easy knits for little kids. It features soft and easy-to-wear clothes modelled by her daughter Abi and her friends. I asked the big question: how does she juggle her knitwear design business, website sales and looking after a small daughter? See page 48.

Beautiful **Charleston** hosted our English country garden fashion shoot this month. From

1916 this 17th Century Sussex house was the home of artists **Vanessa Bell** and **Duncan Grant**.

They made it an idyllic country retreat for the **Bloomsbury group** of artists, writers and intellectuals, including **Virginia Woolf**, **EM Forster** and others. Now open to the public, the interior of the house is inspiring, because the artists painted everything from furniture to walls and doors and filled it with wonderful textiles, ceramics and sculptures.

We focused on the garden for our photo shoot, a summer haven, with colourful flowers, sculptures, mosaics and ponds. Beyond the tranquil garden are views to the majestic South Downs. It is well worth a visit if you're in Sussex. (Entrance £6.50 per adult, £6 concessions, £4.50 disabled/children).

Details from: **Charleston, Firle, Lewes, Sussex BN8 6LL. 01323 811265;**
www.charleston.org.uk

Special offer: Show this page of Knitting and claim £2 off the Charleston guide book (normal price £5)! We hope you enjoy this issue – the patterns start on page 13!

Kate Taylor, Editor



Ruby



Kiki



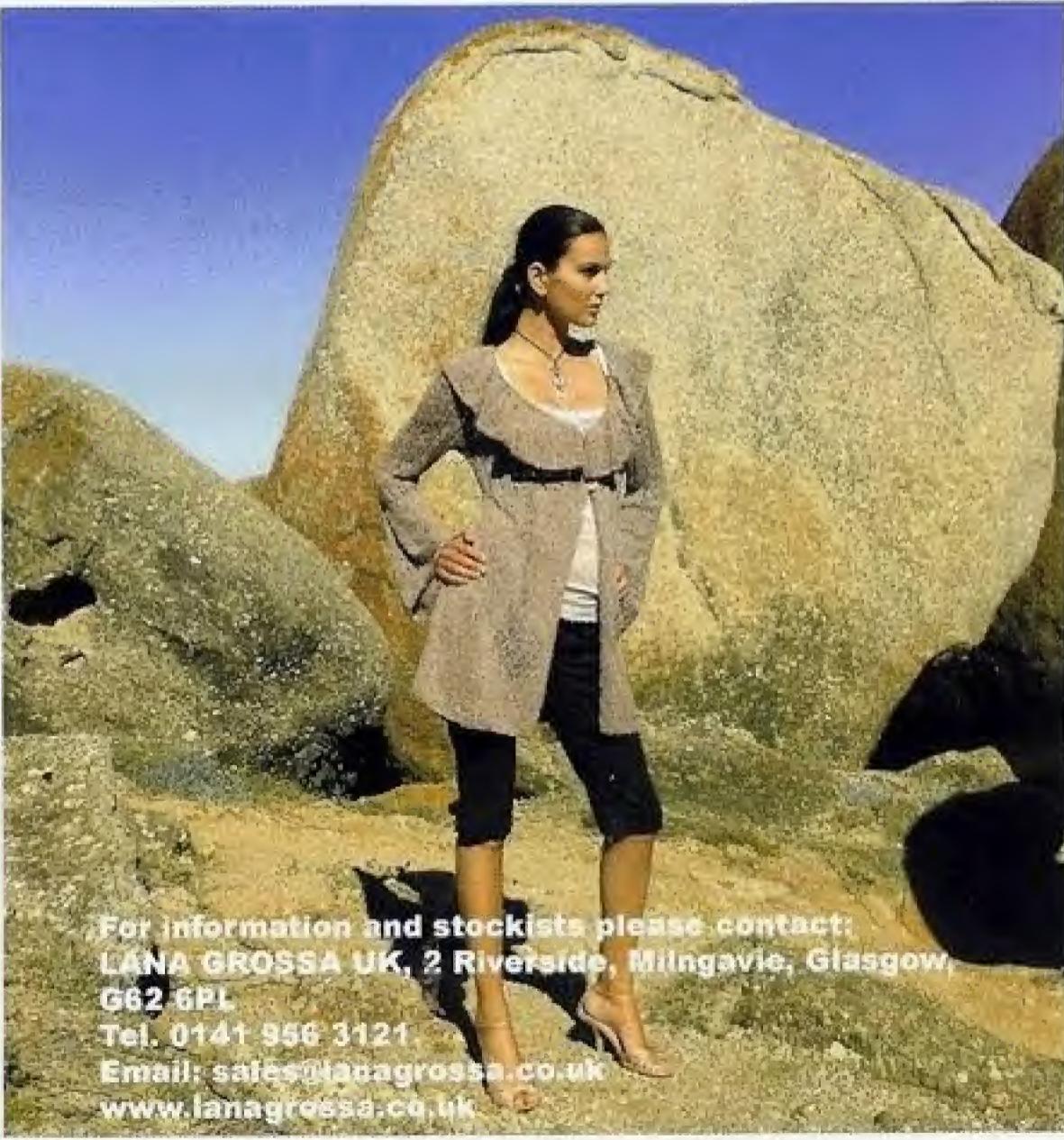
Boho

artesano

Exclusive patterns for Artesano by Jean Moss
100% pure alpaca, baby alpaca and sock yarns.

To view all of our yarns and full pattern range and to find your nearest stockist call 0118 9503350 or visit our brand new website www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

LANA GROSSA
LANA GROSSA LTD. LTD.



For information and stockists please contact:
LANA GROSSA UK, 2 Riverside, Milngavie, Glasgow,
G62 6PL
Tel. 0141 956 3121
Email: sales@lanagrossa.co.uk
www.lanagrossa.co.uk

LANA GROSSA
LANA GROSSA LTD. LTD.

FILL NOAH'S ARK

Noah's Ark is empty... can you fill it up with knitted animals?

Enter our competition and you could win fame, a luxurious Blue Sky Alpacas Bobbi Bear knit kit and a cash prize!



This spring, we are launching a new Noah's Ark knitting competition, building up to a magnificent display of your skills at The Knitting and Stitching Show and National Knitting Week later this year.

Noah's Ark is empty... can you fill it? We love all creatures, from the fiercest tiger to the tiniest mouse, from elephants to crocodiles, exotic birds to slithery snakes. Surely, our readers could capture the essence of some of their favourite creatures in knitted form?

TO ENTER: KNIT AN ANIMAL!

To enter, just post us an animal for the Noah's Ark. This could be any animal you like (or even Noah and his family), of any size, knitted to your own original design. With it, please send your written pattern and the ball bands of yarn or details of other materials used. Plus a measurement sketch of the knitted shape you ended up with, before you sewed it up. Attach your name, address, phone number and email address to your entry, along with your pattern and post it to:

K39 Knitting/Blue Sky Alpacas competition,

GMC Publications Ltd,

116 High Street,

Lewes

BN7 1XN.

Closing date: 14 September 2007.

CASH PRIZE PLUS BOBBI BEAR

We'll pay £75 for each pattern we publish and all entries will be displayed at the Knitting & Stitching Show! The top five entries will win a gorgeous Bobbi Bear or Baby Bobbi Bear kit from Blue Sky Alpacas. See their products at www.blueskyalpacas.com, or visit the UK stockists, Loop (Islington, London), Stash (Putney, London), the Knitting Hut (Woburn Sands, Bucks) or Coolwoolz (Co Down, Ireland).



Win the kit to make a Bobbi Bear (50cm tall) or Baby Bobbi (38cm) in luxurious Blue Sky Alpacas yarns.



Rules of entry

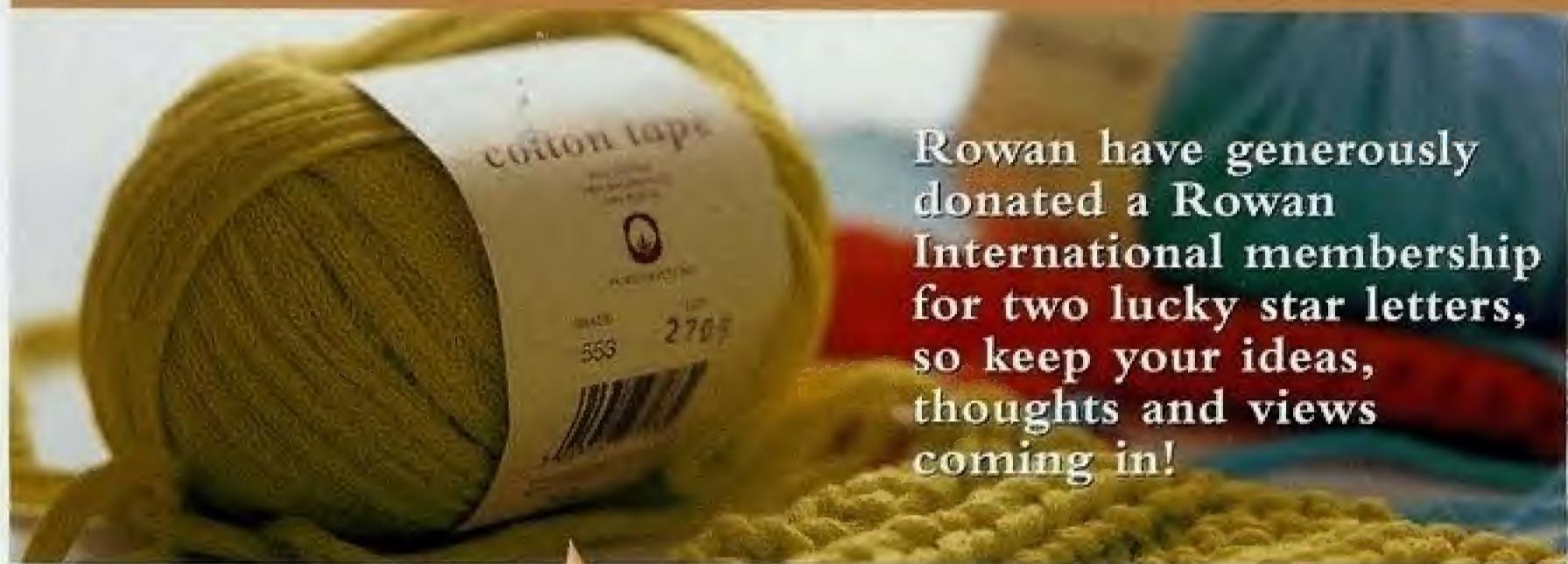
Normal GMC Competition rules apply. By entering the competition you are deemed to have given permission for GMC Publications Ltd to publish your work. Entries must be your own original work, therefore your copyright. Employees of GMC Publications are not eligible to enter. We regret we cannot return entries. GMC will treasure your entries and use them for displays and to promote the craft of knitting during National Knitting Week, 13-21 October 2007, to be launched at The Knitting & Stitching Show in Alexandra Palace, London.

BOBBI PHOTOGRAHPS COURTESY OF BLUE SKY ALPACAS. AMALUS FROM MRSMURKIN.COM

KNITTING COMPETITION

Casting on

Write to us at Letters, Knitting, GMC Publications Ltd, 86 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XN or email us at katiea@thegmcgroup.com



Rowan have generously donated a Rowan International membership for two lucky star letters, so keep your ideas, thoughts and views coming in!

Our columnists Sandra and Stephanie's troubles with intarsia certainly inspired you to write in with helpful advice...

STAR LETTER

Crossed wires

Don't get cross with intarsia. It's all in the crossing of the yarn on the colour changes and using Fair Isle bobbins.

A knitter of some 55 years, I have learned more about intarsia in the last few months than I ever had before. Between knitting a cardigan with cows on a green background for grandson William, and a cardigan with patches of diamonds on for myself, I picked up my copy of *Mary Thomas's Knitting Book*. It explains exactly how to cross the yarn at the back for intarsia. For instance, I never knew that on the purl row the yarns do not need to be crossed as the purl stitches will trap the colour being taken out of use.

From Mary Thomas's book I also learned how to do Fair Isle – there are usually never more than two colours in a row. With a different colour over each index finger, and with a bit of practice, you can knit away and the yarn does not tangle.

Maureen Metcalf, Selby

STAR LETTER

Off the cuff

As a really enthusiastic fan of your splendid magazine I find it very difficult not to stop

everything when the magazine hits the floor from the letter box! The new format is very exciting and makes it so easy to find the patterns. How long for many sets of hands and the time to try out all the lovely garments!

I am probably what you might term a 'born-again' knitter, having had several periods in my life when my needles have been set aside for other interests. I am 78, and I learned to knit at school when I was about eight years old. I can still feel the points of the wooden skewers digging into my fingertips – the string we used probably made it harder too!

My reason for writing to you is to suggest a tip for knitting intarsia. It came to me as I was undoing a cuff of a sock I was knitting. If the lengths of coloured wools are knitted up into small 'cuffs' on four needles, instead of winding them around pegs or into small balls, you will find that the cuffs hold the wool in place and you need only draw the thread as you need it. These 'cuffs' would allow quite a few threads to be attached to the design and they would not become tangled.

I believe knitting is the perfect 'yoga' and it certainly keeps my blood pressure down!

Barbara Fegent,
Wargrave, Berkshire



Go long

Sandra Hill and Stephanie Mann should stop worrying about little balls and bits of cardboard and use Kaffe Fassett's method. Leave long strands of yarn, and when they tangle, as they will, gently pull the strand through the tangle to free it. If the strand is not long enough, add another length with a reef knot and weave the ends in as you go or darn them in afterwards – simple!

Incidentally, I am one of those old (nearly 80) much-despised 'woolly pulley' knitters but I do enjoy your magazine, particularly the information on new yarns and stockists.

One gripe – to take a beautiful yarn and beat it to within an inch of its life to make felt is a criminal offence and should carry a long sentence.

Mary Slater, Swadlincote, Derbyshire



Lotus Intarsia scarf
from April issue (K36)



Gardening women's crumpet
Alan Titchmarsh – modelling
a tasteful sweater!

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF TONY LACK/SHOOT FEATURES



post to Australia. Perhaps you could pass on our website: www.dragonyarns.co.uk

Pamela Francis, via email

Get connected

I run Stitchlinks, a global friendship network that combines the therapeutic benefits of knitting, crochet and cross stitching with up-to-date, practical health information.

I need to collect a very large amount of anecdotal evidence about the therapeutic benefits of these crafts, and have the opportunity to present this to a group of doctors and researchers. Normally they wouldn't take

Lost and found

I noticed on your letters page (K37) that a reader in Australia was looking for two Wendy patterns. We have 4854 in stock now and we

any notice of anecdotal evidence but if I collect thousands, preferably tens of thousands, of stories and document this properly it will be difficult to ignore. So I need the help of as many knitters and stitchers as I can muster to make the most of this unique opportunity. There is a form to fill in on www.stitchlinks.com.

This is a wonderful chance to get our voices heard by some of the leading people in a number of medical fields. Stitchlinks's ultimate aim is to get doctors and other healthcare workers to recognise and prescribe knitting and stitching as a valid treatment for a number of conditions.

Betsan Corkhill, via email

Born in the Eighties

Can you tell me where I can get Gary Kennedy intarsia patterns? I had some over 20 years ago, but can't find any now. I am looking for a Santa or snowman jumper.

Valerie Hepworth, via email

Editor's reply

Thanks for your email Valerie; have a look on eBay, but also www.kidsera.com/80spage4.shtml has many Gary Kennedy patterns for sale.

Hanging out with Alan

I wonder if there are any readers out there who have patterns, using either knitting or crochet, for hanging basket liners? I remember Alan Titchmarsh on Gardeners' World doing a feature on them and he recommended them as being very effective and inexpensive to make.

Mrs Julie Allen

Contact Julie at julie.allen52@btinternet.com, or write to her at: 5 Hartwell Close, Northampton, NN2 8TT

140 STYLE IDEAS 35 NEW PATTERNS 30 TECHNIQUES



Feedback

I've never bought the magazine before, having given up knitting for a time due to a nickel allergy that restricts needle use. What a revelation! I really loved the presentation and the content, especially the 'What Knit to Wear' article – there is nothing more frustrating than finishing a garment only to discover it doesn't suit, and who wants to risk buying costly yarn only to be unable to wear the result? I feel inspired to continue my hobby with confidence!

Mrs C Fletcher, Essex

I have been a subscriber to your magazine for a while now, and am really enjoying it. The May issue arrived today and is causing me problems; I just don't know what to knit first! I love the new look and layout, the many varied designs and features, even the adverts are better. Congratulations!

Bronwyn Scott, Co Durham

I have just picked up the new version of Knitting and wanted to congratulate you all on the new format. I thought it was a different magazine at first and was attracted by the groovy cover. The latest edition is so inspiring and I will keep a lookout for it in future. Thanks again for a lovely magazine.

Sue Southern, by email

Ed's reply

Many thanks for all the emails and letters about our new look. Please keep letting us know what you would like to see more – and less – of in Knitting. ■

Make fancy stitches

If you like a challenge, try our selection of intricate stitch patterns, as featured in a great new book, **400 Knitting Stitches**. See the special offer on page 3 too!

This range of motifs allows for some truly creative knitting. Add them to your favourite basic sweater patterns and lap up the compliments from fellow knitters!

Moroccan screen

For symmetry, work on a multiple of $7 + 5$ sts, + 1 edge st on each side.

1st row (right side of work): K1 (edge), P5, K2tbl; rep from * to * to last 6 sts, P5, K1 (edge).

2nd row: K1 (edge), K5, P2tbl, K5; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

These last 2 rows form pattern.

When work is complete, use a tapestry needle to draw two ribbed sections together, alternating every 10 or 12 rows.



2	8	8	8	8	8	8	10
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

Smocked rib

For symmetry, work on a multiple of $6 + 4$ sts, + 1 edge st on each side.

1st (right side of work), 3rd and 5th rows: K1 (edge), K4 P2; rep from * to * to last 5 sts, K4, then K1 (edge).

2nd and every alternate row: Work all sts in the manner that they present.

7th row: K1 (edge), insert the right-hand needle after the 4th st on the left-hand needle, take yrn, draw up a loop and place it on the left-hand needle; knit this loop and the next st tbl, K3, P2; rep from * to * to last 5 sts, insert the right-hand needle after the 4th st on the left-hand needle, draw up a loop and place it on the left-hand needle; knit this loop and the next st together tbl, K3, then K1 (edge).

9th, 11th and 13th rows: K1 (edge), K1, P2, K4, P2; rep from * to * to last 2 sts, K1, then K1 (edge).

15th row: K1 (edge), K1, P2, insert the right-hand needle after the 4th st on the left-hand needle, take yrn, draw up a loop and place it on the left-hand needle; knit this loop and the next st together tbl, K3, P2; rep from * to * to last 2 sts, K1, then K1 (edge). These last 16 rows form pattern.



16	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
12	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	6	5	4	3	2	1	

Acorns

For symmetry, work on a multiple of $6 + 1$ sts, + 1 edge st on each side.

1st row (right side of work): K1 (edge), *K4, P2*; rep from * to * to last 2 sts, K1, then K1 (edge).

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 14th rows: Work all sts in the manner that they present.

5th row: K1 (edge), *insert the right-hand needle after the 4th st on the left-hand needle, take yrn around needle and draw up a loop, K1, P2, K3*; rep from * to * to last 2 sts, K1, then K1 (edge).

6th row: K1 (edge), P1, *P3, K2, P2 tog*, rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

7th row: K1 (edge), * K1, P2, K3*; rep from * to * to last 2 sts, K1, then K1 (edge).

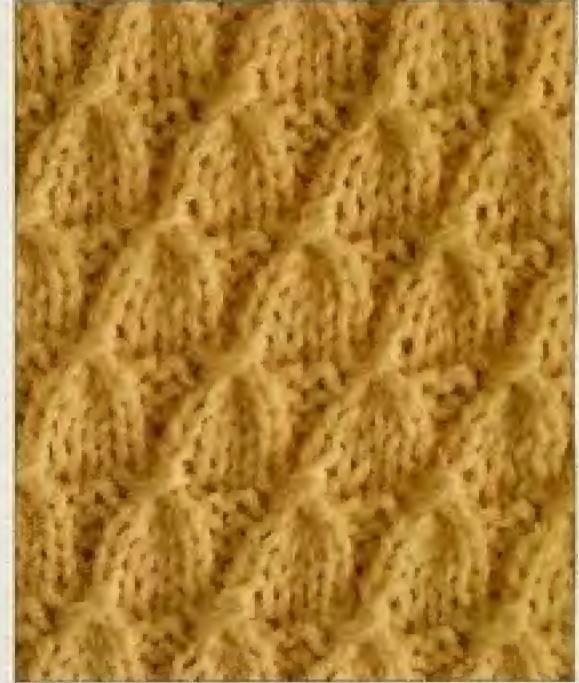
11th row: K1 (edge), K1, *K2, insert the right-hand needle after the 4th st on the left-hand needle, take yrn around needle and draw up a loop, K1, P2, K1*; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

12th row: K1 (edge), *P1, K2, P2 tog, P2*; P2*; rep from * to * to last 2 sts, P1, then K1 (edge).

13th row: K1 (edge), K1, * K3, P2, K1*; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

Rep rows 3 to 14 inclusive.

14	1	-	-	-	-	-	13
12	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	6	5	4	3	2	1	



How to!

Rose buds

For symmetry, work on a multiple of 8 + 1 sts, + 1 edge st on each side. **Note:** This stitch requires the use of a crochet hook.

1st (right side of work) and 3rd rows: K1 (edge), K4, K1 through back of loop, K3; rep from * to * to last 2 sts, K1, then K1 (edge).

2nd and 4th rows: K1 (edge), P1, P3, P1tbl, P4; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

5th row: K1 (edge), K2, using a crochet hook, insert it under the horizontal thread which links the twisted st (worked tbl) with the st preceding it, 4 rows below, *take yrh and draw through a long loop, take yrh and insert hook into the same st, yrh and draw another loop, yrh and draw it through all 3 loops on hook, place this st on right-hand needle*, K2, K1tbl, K2, insert the crochet hook under the horizontal thread which links the twisted st (worked tbl), with the st following it, 4 rows below, rep from * to *, K1, rep from * to * to last 2 sts, K1, K1 (edge).

6th row: 1 (edge), P1, P2 tog, P2, P1tbl, P2, P2 tog, P1; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

7th row: K1 (edge), K4, using a crochet hook, insert it into the next st (removing it from needle), * yrh, draw a loop, yrh, insert hook into same st, yrh, draw a loop, yrh and draw it through all 3 loops on hook, place this st on the left-hand needle and P1*, K3, K1tbl, K3; rep from * to * to last 6 sts, insert crochet hook into next st and rep from * to * to last 6 sts, insert crochet hook into next st and rep from * to *, K4, then K1 (edge).

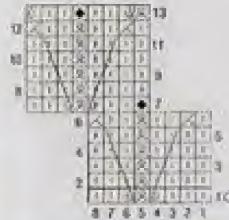
8th and 10th rows: K1 (edge), P5, P3, P1tbl, P4* K1 (edge), P5, P3, P1tbl, P4; rep from * to * to last 5 sts, P4, K1 (edge).

9th row: K1 (edge), K4, K4, K1tbl, K3; rep from * to * to last 6 sts, K5, then K1 (edge). K4, *K2, using a crochet hook, insert it under the horizontal thread which links the twisted st (worked tbl) with the st preceding it, 4 rows below, *take yrh and draw through a long loop, take yrh and insert hook into the same st, yrh and draw another loop, yrh and

draw it through all 3 loops on hook, place this st on right-hand needle*, K2, K1tbl, K2, insert the crochet hook under the horizontal thread which links the twisted st (worked tbl) with the st following it, 4 rows below, rep from * to *, K1; rep from * to * to last 6 sts, K5, K1 (edge).

12th row: K1 (edge), P5 P2 tog, P2, P1tbl, P2, P2 tog, P1; rep from * to * to last 5 sts, P4, K1 (edge).

13th row: K1 (edge), K4, K1tbl, K3, using a crochet hook, insert it into the next st, *yrh, draw a loop, yrh, insert hook into same st, yrh, draw a loop, yrh and draw it through all 3 loops on hook, place this st on the left-hand needle and purl it*, K3, K1tbl, K3; rep from * to * to last 6 sts, K1tbl, K4, then K1 (edge). Rep rows 2 to 13 inclusive.



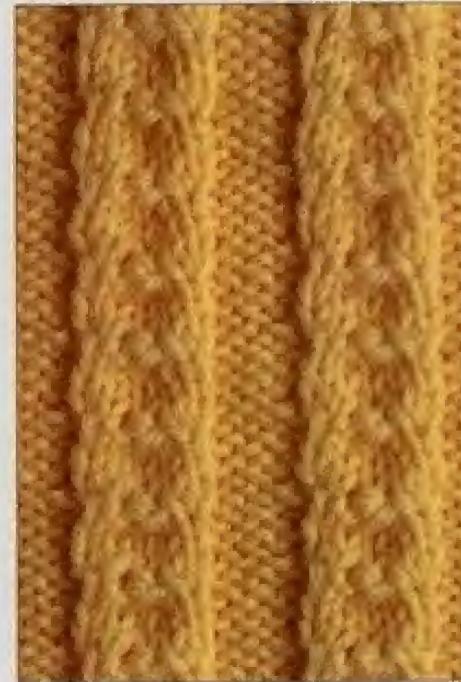
Garland

For symmetry and continuity, work on a multiple of 9 sts, + 1 edge st on each side.

1st row (right side of work): K1 (edge), *P2, K5, P2*; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

2nd and 4th rows: K1 (edge), *K2, P5, K2*; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge).

3rd row: K1 (edge), P2, 'Lifted knit inc right, without hole' (insert tip of right-hand needle into top of loop just below the next st; knit the loop, thus making a st, then knit the st on the needle), K1, P3 tog, K1, 'Lifted knit inc left, without hole' (coming from behind, with the tip of the left-hand needle, pick up the top of the loop below the last completed st, knit into the front of the loop, thus making a st), P2*; rep from * to * to last st, K1 (edge). These last 4 rows form pattern.



Key:

= K1 on right side of work, or P1 on wrong side of work

= P1 on right side of work, or K1 on wrong side of work

= on right side of work, P1 through back of loop, or, on wrong side of work, K1 through back of loop

= k1tbl (knit 1 through back loop)

= "Lifted knit increase right, without hole" on right side of work (insert tip of right-hand needle into top of loop just below the next st; knit the loop, thus making a st, then knit the st on the needle)

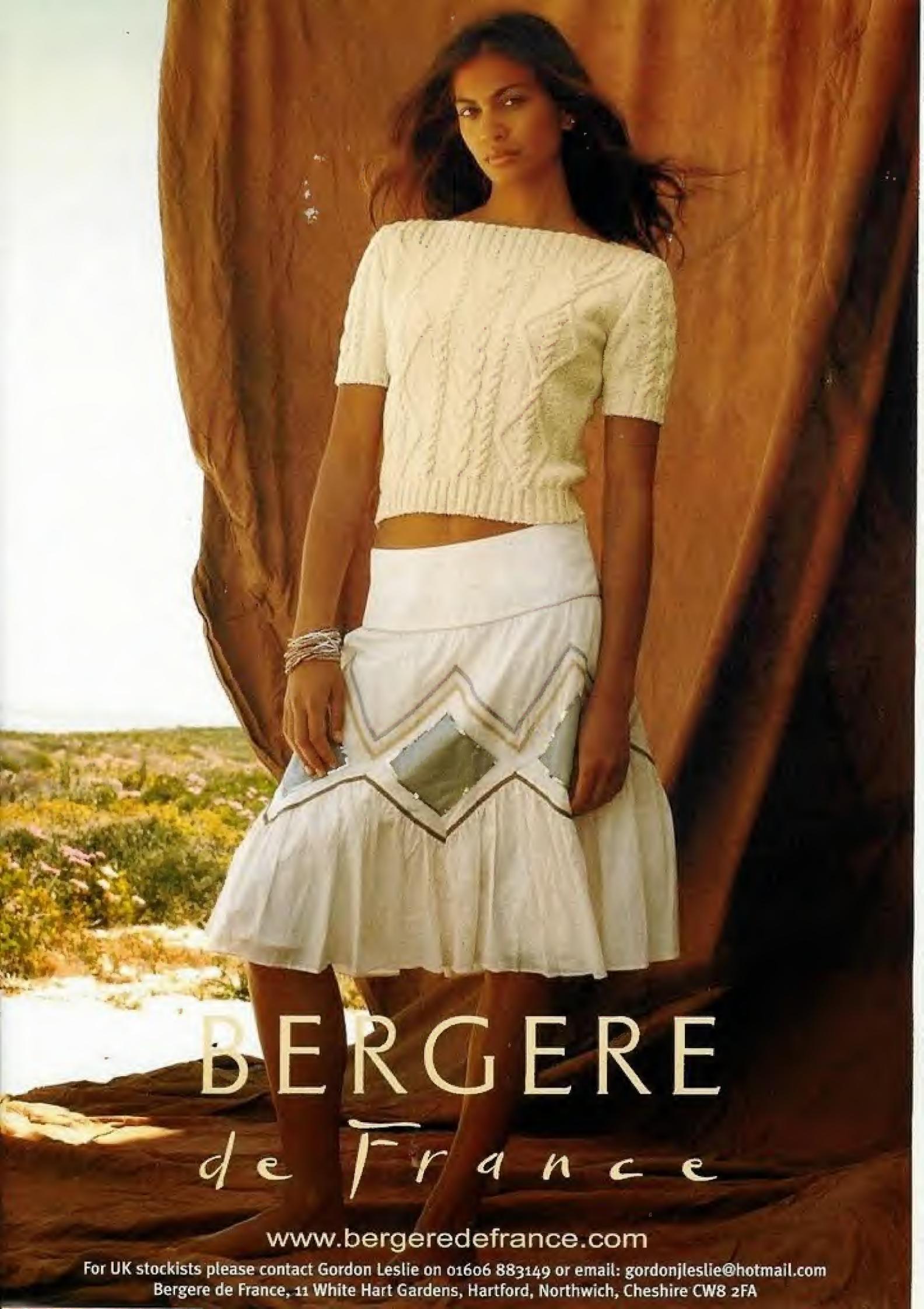
= "Lifted knit increase left, without hole" on right side of work (coming from behind, with the tip of the left-hand needle, pick up the top of the loop below the last completed st, knit into the front of the loop, thus making a st)

= on right side of work, insert the right-hand needle after the 4th st on the left-hand needle, take yarn round hook and draw up a loop, then knit the st on the needle, draw up a loop, K1, P2, K1

= on right side of work, insert the right-hand needle after the 4th st on the left-hand needle, take yarn round needle, draw up a loop and place it on the left-hand needle; knit this loop and the next st together through the back of loop, K3

= crochet bobble (insert crochet hook into 1st st; take yarn round hook and draw up a loop, then knit the st on the needle, draw up a loop, K1, P2, K1)

Abbreviations see page 64



BERGERE

de France

www.bergeredefrance.com

For UK stockists please contact Gordon Leslie on 01606 883149 or email: gordonjleslie@hotmail.com
Bergeré de France, 11 White Hart Gardens, Hartford, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 2FA

See 250 Artists & Craftsmen at work. From Painting to Sculpture & Ceramics to Woodwork

Witness the Art of Creation



Waterperry

Nr. Wheatley,
Oxfordshire
OX33 1JZ

19-22 JULY 07
Art in Action

Free Festival Days Sat 20 & Sun

Tel: 020 7381 3192

www.artinaction.org.uk

info@artinaction.org.uk



woolfest 2007

celebrating nature's finest fibres

Friday June 29 &
Saturday June 30, 2007

Admission £5
(acc. children free) •

Mitchell's Lakeland Livestock Centre
Cockermouth, Cumbria



Full details at www.woolfest.co.uk
or 016974 78707. Workshop bookings open 1 March

Organised by The Wool Clip Ltd

Supported by Cumbria Fells & Dales Leader+



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID BROWN

Blog reviews By Katie Allen

Piece of cake

<http://lixieknitsit.blogspot.com/>

Inconveniently, my work computer has its speakers based on the floor, but Lixie's podcast was so entertaining I found myself with head under the desk for at least ten minutes, listening to her discuss knitting on the net, eco-yarns and cupcakes. Despite the resultant headrush I was also able to focus on her blog, that details her struggles with knitting socks, the temptation to buy stash and a very funny incident involving gym equipment. Lixie's style is very personal and amusing, and it is an easily navigable and readable site, with lots of photos and links, including one to the very sinful <http://cupcakeblog.com/>

Spin doctor

<http://slippedstitch.blogspot.com/>

There is yet more cake on PhD student and London girl Alice Bell's blog. Including a tempting-looking Guinness cake, but it is also stuffed with her many projects and designs, including the great intarsia 'crayon' scarf, sideways-knitted Bakerloo socks – including a design like piano keys – and the glamorous Ester shrug. There are links to all the patterns for these, and a directory of other blogs. Plus have a read of Alice's list of '30 things about me' that includes the time she was flashed whilst knitting on the bus... and look out for the knitted voodoo doll. It's a dangerous world out there...

Teenage knits

<http://kellymaher.wordpress.com/>

Kelly is only 19 years old but she must have had time to fit in a lot of knitting practice, since the patterns and FOs (Finished Objects) she features on her blog (many of them her first attempts!) are impressively assured and stylish, including a Fair Isle iPod cover and Amelia Earhart Aviator Cap. She's only been blogging a short while, but like the best sites, hers is quick and easy to get around with bright clear photos (excellent for nosy knitters) and the occasional forays into musings on 'extra-knitular' activities. Kelly's blog is still under construction, so hopefully there will be more to come.

Colour me beautiful

<http://goodhooking.blogspot.com/>

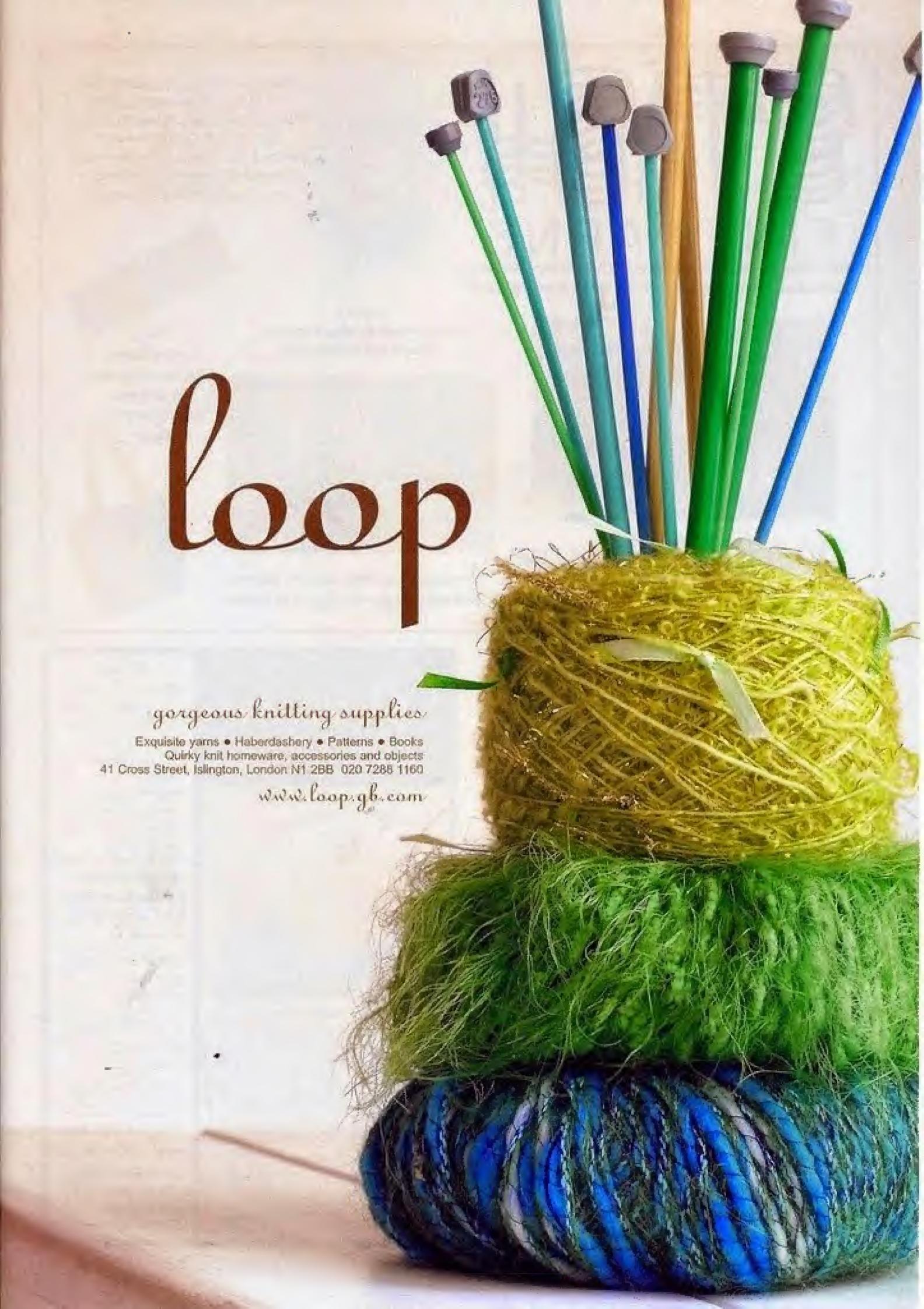
Katie unflatteringly describes her site as 'including all the garish creations churned out by my own fair hand'. Whether you would consider them 'garish' or not, Katie's creations are certainly fun and colourful – as is her language: I found myself sniggering out loud in a most unladylike fashion at her witty descriptions of crochet disasters and her penchant for rainbow-hued stripes. The background is – yes – multi-coloured, which is a little taxing on the eyes, but otherwise Katie's blog is great fun, and there is a distracting array of interesting-looking links too.

loop

gorgeous knitting supplies

Exquisite yarns • Haberdashery • Patterns • Books
Quirky knit homeware, accessories and objects
41 Cross Street, Islington, London N1 2BB 020 7288 1160

www.loop.gb.com



knitting design COMPETITION

 Patons

Fairytales

Colour 4 Me DK

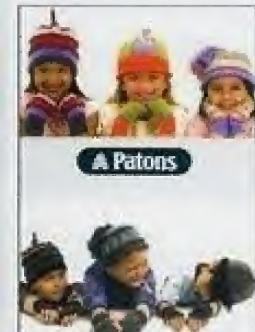
Patons is launching a fantastic new 100% wool yarn called Colour 4 Me at the end of June. Available in a temptingly vibrant palette of 24 shades and machine washable, Colour 4 Me is perfect for knitting children's patterns.

To celebrate the launch, Patons is inviting you to enter our exciting design competition, only for readers of Knitting magazine.

We would like you to create a garment for a child of up to 4 years old. Your design should be bright and fun, using at least four colours from the Colour 4 Me range pictured here and it should have a theme or royalty free motif (e.g. not Spiderman or Disney Princess). You could use fairisle, intarsia or even Swiss darning to create your design.

For the first stage we would like you to submit a sketch or picture of your design with the entry form at the bottom of the page. Patons and Knitting magazine will then choose six finalists who will be sent the yarn they need to knit a completed garment. All the finalists will be invited to the Knitting and Stitching show at Alexandra Palace 11-14th October 2007 and the winner will be announced on the Patons stand. The winning design will appear as a pattern in Knitting's Christmas Special.

The closing date to submit sketches is Monday 9th July. Finalists will be notified by 16th July and the closing date for garments will be 31st August. These dates are final and entries received after this time will not be considered.



ENTRY FORM

Name:

Address:

Design Name:

Daytime phone number:

Email address:

Please tick the box if you would like to receive information about CraftCrafts products

Please send your entry to Colour 4 Me/Knitting Magazine Design Competition, c/o Bluebear, 60 Bridge Road East, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 1JU



Prizes

The winner receives 50 balls of Colour 4 Me yarn and will be featured in Knitting's Christmas Special

Two runners up receive 20 balls of Colour 4 Me yarn

All the finalists will receive a selection of Patons pattern books and travel and entry into the Knitting and Stitching show at Alexandra Palace.



Inside this month...



Regulars

- 1 Editor's letter**
A look inside the July issue
- 3 Preview**
This month's special offers
- 4 In stitches**
What's hip & happening in the knitting world
- 6 Get inspired**
Thirst-quenching delights
- 8 Events**
Dates for your diary
- 10 What's hot!**
This season's fashion trends
- 32 Coming next month**
Sneak preview of August 2007
- 34 Casting on**
Your letters and knitting views
- 84 Stockist details**
Where to buy this month's yarn
- 93 Ask Jean**
Your knitting niggles solved
- 96 Needles at dawn**
Nature v nurture

Competitions

- 29 Fill Noah's Ark**
Knit us an animal!
- 43 Win Patons Colour 4 Me Yarn**
Design a child's garment

Features

- 40 Knitblogs**
Snooping into online diaries
- 48 Kids love soft knits**
Catherine Tough and her newest book

Reviews

- 44 Yarn review**
A selection of natural yarns
- 57 Book reviews**
Crafty books we love

How to

- 37 Fancy stitches**
Tips from 400 Stitches
- 52 Novelty edgings**
A taste of the unusual
- 59 How to knit and crochet**
Handy hints, tips and diagrams

Patterns

- 13 The knitting gallery**
Stunning pictures of this month's patterns

Fashion knits

- 66 Shrub**
Cropped cardigan
- 67 Cable Sweater**
Shimmery sleeveless knit

- 71 Breeze**
Frilled vest top
- 67 Malibu**
Crochet halter top

Quick knits

- 74 Calypso**
Belt and headband
 - 75 Retro Chic**
Clutch bag
- ## Home knits
- 76 Diagonal**
Baby blanket
 - 77 Mexican Wave**
Placemats and coasters

Fun knits

- 77 Roland Rabbit**
Cute and cuddly toy
- ## Mini knits
- 79 Sherbet Dip**
Hoodie
 - 80 Violet**
Wrapover cardigan
 - 82 Birthday Treat**
Knitted cards

How to use the new-look issue...

Knitting now includes glossy pages of gorgeous pictures to show each month's projects. Check out our gallery of patterns on page 13 and find full instructions to knit each item from page 66 onwards. As before, every issue will have a selection of fashion, quick, home and mini knits, plus a fun knit. We hope you enjoy making this month's patterns!



Page 13
Our quick guide to our patterns

Page 14-27
See our gallery of patterns

Page 66-83
Find all your pattern instructions for this month's patterns from page 66 onwards

Natural SELECTION

Sue Pearce takes a look at the pure, breathable fibres that are topping knitters' wish lists this season

LEFT: Louisa Harding
Kimono Ribbon Pure
CENTRE: Kaalund Silk Strands
RIGHT: Colinette Zanziba

Photography by Laurel Guilfoyle





WENDY PURE
COMPOSITION: 100% Bamboo
WEIGHT: 50g
LENGTH: 80m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 5.5mm
RRP: £2.65

Continuing the trend for bamboo as the latest natural eco-fibre to hit the market, Wendy has produced a lovely, silky-soft yarn. **Pure** is made from selected young bamboo farmed in sustainable plantations in China, where it is an important support to the rural economy. Bamboo fibre has natural anti-allergic and antibacterial properties, achieved without harmful chemical additives, and this enhances the wonderful characteristics. It has a natural sheen comparable to silk and is as soft and gentle as cashmere, so it is a pleasure to wear next to the skin, where it has a temperature balancing effect. The yarn consists of a flat, knitted tube, forming a narrow tape and the sample knitted up quickly and easily with just a hint of texture on the stocking stitch section. The tension comes out at 20 sts and 26 rows to 10cm and it comes in 12 colours that include subtle pink, lavender and duck egg and a vibrant fuchsia. The sample is shown in shade 881 Milk. Pattern support is available in leaflet form for women and children.

ROWAN SUMMER TWEED
COMPOSITION: 70% Silk,
30% Cotton
WEIGHT: 50g
LENGTH: 108m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 5mm
RRP: £4.75

This lovely silk blend features heavily in the new summer patterns from Rowan this year. It is a strong

yarn with the texture of raw silk and each shade is flecked to give a tweedy appearance. With a tension of 16 stitches and 23 rows to 10cm, it is reasonably quick to knit and produces light, gently draping garments. **Summer Tweed** is available in 31 shades that range from soft, creamy naturals through to vibrant splashes of turquoise and red, and the sample is shown in shade 629 Denim. This is the perfect yarn for cool, summer garments with superb pattern support in Rowan Magazine 41 and The Kasbah Collection.

PATONS SORBET
COMPOSITION: 73% Cotton,
27% Acrylic
WEIGHT: 50g
LENGTH: 75m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 6mm
RRP: £3.55

This lovely cotton blend is a thick rounded yarn that knits up very quickly on 6mm needles with a tension of 15 sts and 22 rows to 10cm. The stitch definition is clear and it looks fantastic when used with a textured stitch such as moss stitch or garter stitch. Although it is a fairly chunky yarn, the acrylic blend makes it lightweight and comfortable to wear, perfect for a summer cardigan or jacket for cooler days. **Sorbet** comes in a range of ten clear shades that include Nectarine, Jersey Cream and Apple, and the sample is shown in shade 5009 Ice. Pattern support is available in leaflet form for lacy tops and cardigans.

This is an old favourite of mine from Colinette. It is a lovely, soft, knobbly yarn with a silky sheen that is enhanced by a textured stitch such as moss stitch. It has a tension of 11 sts and 16 rows to 10cm and knits into a firm and dense fabric with good elasticity. **Zanziba** is available in a huge range of 74 colours from Colinette's fabulous hand-dyes. These include every colour of the rainbow from the bright splashes of turquoise and pink in Jewel to the soft subtle shades of cream and blue in Sea Breeze (shown in the sample). There are no dye lots and the colours of each hank may vary so it is recommended that two balls of yarn are used at the same time to knit imaginary stripes of 2-4 rows; this will blend the colours in and achieve an even effect overall. There are two pattern books to support Zanziba, 4x4 and Trio, but the yarn will also adapt to other patterns and looks great mixed in with a plain chunky yarn.

COLINETTE ZANZIBA
COMPOSITION:
Viscose blend
WEIGHT: 100g
LENGTH: 100m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 7mm
RRP: £5.80



Yarn Review

This luxurious silk yarn is a real treat that is soft to handle and quick to knit with, giving beautifully clear stitch definition. Originally designed as a silk yarn for stitching and embroidery, it easily adapts as a knitting yarn. It has a tension of 22 sts to 10cm. Silk Strands is available in a range of 21 multicoloured shades inspired by the diversity of the Australian landscape, including the vibrant reds of the desert, the strong green of

Camphor Laurel and
the vibrant blue of
Pacific shown
in the
sample.

KAALUND SILK STRANDS

COMPOSITION: 100% Silk
WEIGHT: 50g
LENGTH: 108m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 4-5mm
RRP: £12.95



This is a perfect blend for a sock yarn. The bamboo content makes the yarn breathable and regulates the temperature and the wool element provides elasticity, the added bonus being that it is an environmentally friendly product. This amazingly soft combination can be used for a number of projects other than socks. It knits into a comfortable garment that can be worn next to the skin without causing irritation. The tension is 30 sts and 42 rows to 10cm and an average sized adult pair of socks takes two balls. **Bamboo Color** is available in a range of

multicoloured shades that form a striped pattern when knitted and the sample is shown in shade 1061 Aqua.

REGIA BAMBOO COLOR

COMPOSITION: 45% Bamboo,
40% Superwash new wool,
15% Polyamide
WEIGHT: 50g
LENGTH: 200m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 2.75mm
RRP: £4.45



LOUISA HARDING
KIMONO RIBBON PURE
COMPOSITION: 100% Nylon
WEIGHT: 50g
LENGTH: 93m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 6mm
RRP: £4.95



This shimmering yarn consists of a ladder tape that forms a silky ribbon and knits up into a gorgeous textured fabric. The recommended tension is 18 sts and 24 rows to 10cm, but use larger needles to achieve a lacy effect. Kimono Ribbon is lovely to handle and has excellent elasticity, knitting up into a light fabric that springs back into shape. The shades are inspired by exotic locations reflecting the deep blue of a tropical sea along with a soft shell pink and the sample is shown in shade 06. Pattern support is available in the two Beachcomber Bay books by Louisa Harding. These include short bolero tops and lacy shrugs.

SIRDAR SNUGGLY BABY BAMBOO

COMPOSITION:
80% Bamboo, 22% Wool
WEIGHT: 50g
LENGTH: 94m
REC NEEDLE SIZE: 4mm
RRP: £2.75



This new baby yarn from Sirdar completes the bamboo theme. Designed specifically for

baby and toddler knits, it is soft and gentle for sensitive skins. The wool blend gives the warmth and the bamboo fibre creates a natural breathable garment. Baby Bamboo is available in ten soft and subtle shades that include Cream, Putty, Lilac and Willow, and it has a gentle sheen. It knits to a standard double knit tension with 22 sts and 28 rows to 10cm, so it can be used for most DK patterns. There is also full pattern support in seven leaflets and a book. This is an easy yarn to knit with, giving clear and well-defined stitches and it looks equally good knitted in simple stocking stitch or more elaborate textured designs.



1. Patons Sorbet, 2. Louisa Harding Kimono Ribbon Pure, 3. Kaalund Silk Strands, 4. Sirdar Baby Bamboo,
5. Colinette Zanziba, 6. Wendy Pure, 7. Rowan Summer Tweed, 8. Regia Bamboo Color

Stockist Details

Wendy Pure

Thomas B Ramsden & Co (Bradford) Ltd
Netherfield Road, Guiseley, West Yorkshire, LS20 9PD
Tel: 01943 872 264 Email: sales@tbramsden.co.uk

Patons Sorbet and Regia Bamboo Color Coats (UK) Ltd

PO Box 22, Lingfield House, Lingfield Point, McMullen Road
Darlington, Co. Durham, DL1 1YQ
Tel: 01325 394 237 Email: consumer.ccuk@coats.com

Louisa Harding Kimono Ribbon Pure Designer Yarns Ltd

Units 8-10 Newbridge Industrial Estate, Pitt Street
Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD21 4PQ
Tel: 01535 664 222 Email: alex@designeryarns.uk.com

Rowan Summer Tweed

Rowan Yarns
Green Lane Mill, Holmfirth, West Yorkshire, HD9 2DX
Tel: 01484 681 881 Email: mail@knitrowan.com

Snuggly Baby Bamboo

Sirdar Spinning Ltd
Flanshaw Lane, Alverthorpe, Wakefield
West Yorkshire, WF2 9ND
Tel: 01924 371 501
Email: enquiries@sirdar.co.uk

Colinette Zanziba

Colinette Yarns Ltd
Banwy Workshops, Llanfair Caereinion
Powys, Wales, SY21 0SG
Tel: 01938 810 128
Email: www.colinette.com

Kaalund Silk Strands

Auscraft
6 The Long Yard, Wickfield, Shefford Woodlands
Berkshire, RG17 7EH
Tel: 01488 649 955
Email: auscraft@auscraft.co.uk

Meet the designer

Kids love soft knits

Catherine Tough's new book, *Easy Knits for Little Kids*, is just out. Full of fresh and lively designs in soft yarn, the book was inspired by her daughter Abi, five. By Kate Taylor



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Bag in Rowan Cotton Rope, Pinatore dress in Jaeger Extra Fine Merino Chunky, Abi in the Rabbit sweater, Jayden in Frog sweater, Jayden in Frog sweater. All designs from *Easy Knits for Little Kids*.

Asense of fun shines through Catherine Tough's knitwear designs. Her new book features lively photos of her daughter and best friend Jayden racing around in their local park, wearing children's knitwear made for action! Her website is a feast for the eyes, offering brightly coloured knitted accessories in luxury fibres, which would make perfect presents for someone special. I asked this young, talented knitwear designer about her life.

How did you get into knitting?

My mum always made our school jumpers and I did machine knitting for my BA. Handknits have always been created within my family and my sisters are both designers. I graduated from the Royal College of Art with an MA in Knitted Textiles in 1999 and started work as a designer in 2000.

I've heard that you are inspired by the Caribbean, London and your rural childhood in Worcestershire – please tell us more!

When we visit my husband Ras's family in Trinidad I love the colours of the flowers and the incredible beach. The bright, fresh cleanliness of everything is so different to

“Pink is the best selling colour by far. I think you're either a pink or a blue lady **”**

Britain. It is a poor country so there is a 'make do and mend' culture. Recycling happens through necessity and the wooden board houses are made of all sorts of bits and bobs that people have found. It's wonderful and it all filters into the mix when I'm designing my knitwear. Some of my designs are inspired by graphic prints – Ras works for Japanese design retailer

Muji and I like the manga comics of Togashi Koshihiro and Tazuka Osamu.

What other influences do you draw on for your designs?

I grew up in the Worcestershire, but now I live in Hackney, an exciting area of London, with Ras and our daughter Abigail, surrounded by designers, artists and characters. Our local Ridley Road market is often featured on TV – it appeared on Neneh Cherry and Andi Oliver's cooking programme and also in *The Face of Britain* recently. Apparently you can see the faces of 40 nationalities within a few hundred yards here!

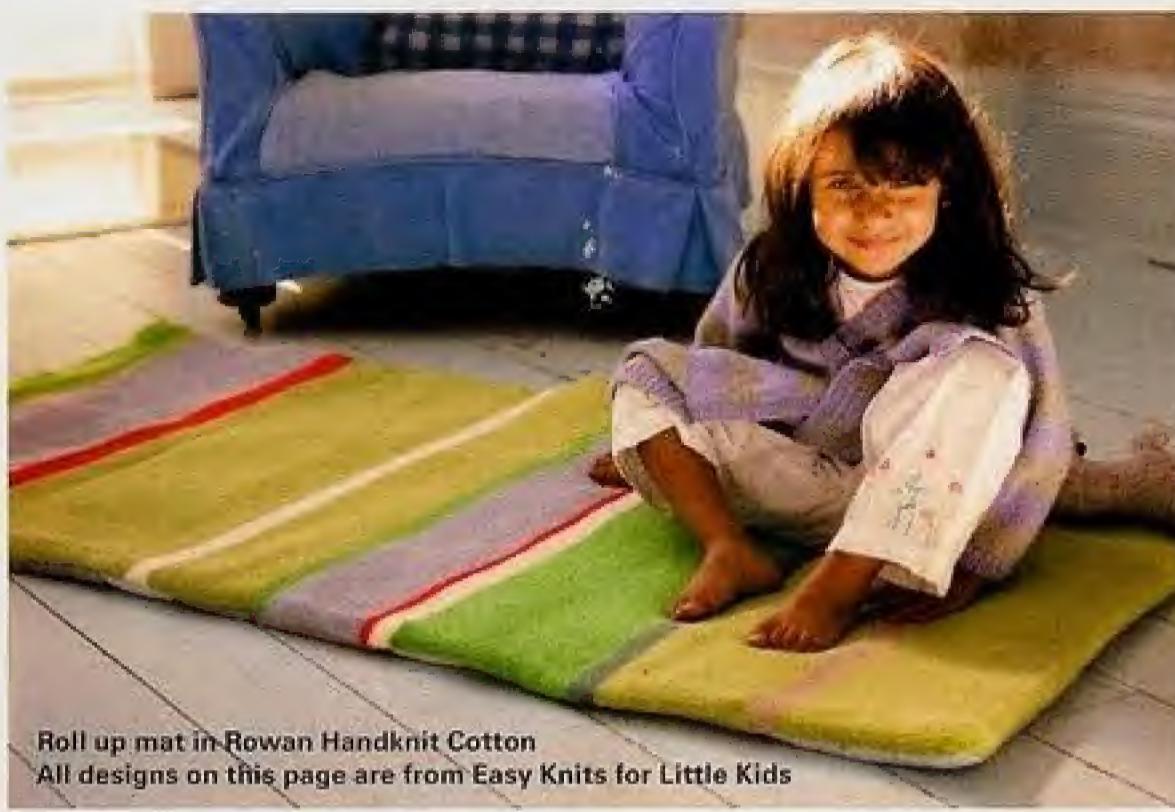
How do you use that cultural mix?

I see something new every day. It may be a different fabric, like an African textile, or just an unusual combination of colours. There is a lady tramp who wears a red and white spotted smock. No normal person would wear that, but seeing such a sight can inspire me in my own designs. I find that stripes and spots are very popular for home designs, such as the hottie



Abi in The swing coat

Meet the designer



Roll up mat in Rowan Handknit Cotton

All designs on this page are from Easy Knits for Little Kids

cover and the cashmere or lambswool socks that I sell on my website.

What are your best sellers?

Pink is the best selling colour by far. I think you're either a pink or a blue lady. I also design a neutral palette of earthy greens, greys, oatmeal with white, grey with orange; and so on. You just learn the hard way that you should never make 300 orange cushions to sell, or whatever! I have been making a living as a designer for 6-7 years now, on a small scale at first. I launched my website last October and it is doing well.

Tell me about your books

Writing books is a relatively new venture. I enjoyed working with my former tutor, designer Sarah Dallas on her book *Scottish Inspirations*. That was an exploration of Rowan Scottish Tweed yarn and I really liked using marled neutral colours for a change. I designed felted slippers, a patchwork throw and a child's jacket. Then I wrote *Hip Knits* for Conran/Octopus Press and now *Easy knits for little kids* by Rowan. Abi inspired me to work on childrenswear.

How do you juggle looking after your daughter and your work?

Abi is nearly five now, so I drop her at school at 9am, then spend the day at the studio. Then I collect her from school and catch up with emails at home. A 'proper job' would be less flexible. Abi enjoys coming to the studio and loves creating her own things.

What fibres would you recommend for children's wear?

For durability and for winter I like lambswool mixed with cashmere or other luxury mixes. You do have to hand wash the garments, but

they last forever and look really good. Abi is a real connoisseur, she complains if her clothes are scratchy or the neck is too tight. She likes wearing the pinafore dress and cashmere robe in the Easy knits for little kids book. It's worth listening to children, because you forget what it's like to have no say in the clothes you wear. I like cotton for spring and summer, for instance for the book I designed a cable blue jumper using Rowan Denim yarn. Denim gets better as you wash it. Cotton gives such clean, bright colours, and is machine washable.

Do you like any particular music to knit to?

I listen to all sorts of music - classical, reggae and Abi likes James Brown. Music helps, because the studio is surrounded by woodworkers using power tools!

Do you work alone?

I have an assistant who is updating the website at the moment and we're adding lots of exciting new products for Christmas. There will be presents for men and knitted decorations. At the moment we sell lavender chicks and ducks, but soon we'll add a knitted robin stuffed with citrus and spice scents. I'd like to write a personal blog for the site, when I have time.

Do you have any other projects in the pipeline?

I'm working on a new book of knits for dog lovers. It's great fun, things like picture frames, slippers with doggy motifs, and so on.

And finally, if you could knit for a celebrity, who would it be?

I'd love to knit for Ugly Betty! I love the craziness of her family. ●



Stripy chair pad
in Rowan Handknit Cotton

See more designs

Catherine's own website is:
www.catherinetough.co.uk

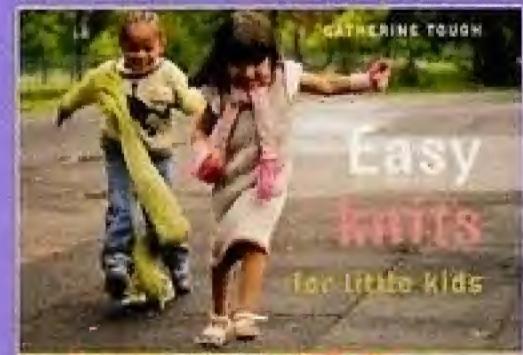
She sells bright fuchsia cashmere heart cushions, stripy cashmere socks, pink or blue lambswool bedsocks, hottie covers, a raspberry pink Hug cushion, Lavender ducks and chicks in stripes and brights.

Her books are stocked by a wide range of wool shops (see the adverts including Yarn finder on page 85).

Other retail shops stocking Catherine's designs include London-based knitting shop Loop: 020 7288 1160; www.loop.gb.com

Books

Easy knits for little kids,
by Catherine Tough, Rowan, June 2007,
ISBN 1-904485-85-5, £14.99 plus postage
from GMC Publications Ltd 01273 488 005;
www.thegmcgroup.com
Scottish inspirations by Sarah Dallas with
Wendy Baker and Catherine Tough, Rowan,
2006, ISBN 1-904485-71-5, £12.99
plus postage from GMC Publications Ltd
01273 488 005; www.thegmcgroup.com
Hip knits, by Catherine Tough, Conran
Octopus 2005, £12.99 from bookshops and
selected wool shops.





Scarf and hat



I-cord edging



PHOTOGRAPH BY FIONA MORRIS

Using double pointed needle cast on 3 stitches.
*Knit the first 2 stitches and slip the next stitch to the right needle.



PHOTOGRAPH BY FIONA MORRIS

With the wrong side of the piece of knitting facing you put the point of the right needle through the knitted fabric between the edge stitch and the next stitch in.



PHOTOGRAPH BY FIONA MORRIS

Put the yarn around the needle to make a stitch. Pull this loop through the knitting. Pass the slipped stitch over the stitch just made.

Push the 3 stitches to the other end of the double pointed needle ready to work the next stitch.* Repeat from * to * moving along one stitch or one row every row of cord knitted.

Depending on your row and stitch tension you may have to knit an extra row on the cord stitches only every so often to make sure the cord doesn't pull the edge out of shape. If you want to go around a corner and keep the corner shape you need to knit 2 rows over the cord stitches only to stretch around the edge.

Knit novelty EDGINGS

More tips on creating unusual edgings for your knitwear by Fiona Morris

Use the technique to make the headband and belt on page 18

In this last article on edgings I have looked at what might be termed novelty edgings. One of the most versatile techniques that can also be used as an edging is 'I-cord' also known as 'idiot-cord' and 'slip cord'. The technique uses double pointed needles to make a cord similar to that produced by 'French Knitting' on a cotton reel with nails in the top.

The basic technique is to cast on 3, 4 or 5

stitches onto double pointed needles. Knit one row, then without turning the knitting, push the knitting to the other end of the double pointed needle. Put the needle in your left hand. Pull the yarn across the back to knit the 3, 4 or 5 stitches again. Repeat this action until the cord is the length you require.

As well as being knitted on its own, 'I-cord' can also be knitted onto a piece of knitting as it is being made.

Edgings to try

If you are applying an 'I-cord' edge to a piece of stocking stitch you will probably need at least 3 rows of 'I-cord' to balance out the tendency of stocking stitch to roll at the edges.



1. Applied 'I-cord'

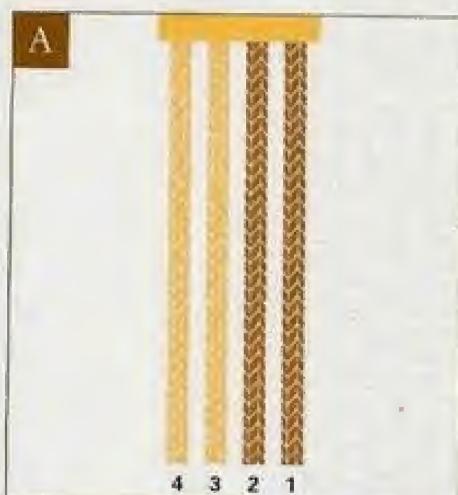
Sample 1 is an example of applied 'I-cord' worked in 2 colours.



2. Strand 'I-cord' braid

Lengths of 'I-cord' can be knitted and then braided to make an edging. In **Sample 2** I knitted 4 'I-cords' in two colours. I then braided the 'I-cords' to give a rounded braid. If the garment is knitted before the braid, the braid will have to be sewn to the edge. However in **Sample 2** I made the braid first and then picked up stitches from one of the cords to continue knitting.

Braid Illustration



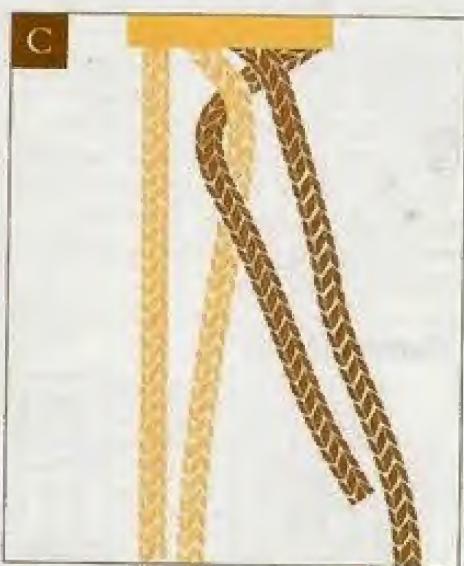
A. You need 4 strands of 'I-cord', 2 dark and 2 light.



B. Take strand 1 under 2 and 3



E. And back over strand 1. (Strand 3 has now moved to the outside).



C. Then back over 3. (Strand 2 moves to the outside edge)



F. The dark pair of strands stay on the right all the time and the light pair of strands stay on the left. Continue to work the steps above.



D. Take strand 4 under strands 3 and 1. (Strand 1 is next to strand 3 after the previous move)



3. 2-colour twisted edging

Sample 3 looks like a 2-colour twisted 'I-cord' but is actually worked in a slightly different way. It is based on a machine knitting edging. The edging is knitted onto the main piece of knitting and is worked with the right side of the knitting facing you. I found it easier to work with short needles as you are working with 3 stitches at a time.

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFERS!

Patons



WIN a Patons Skinny Scarf kit!

Patons has 50 Skinny Scarf kits worth £7.99 each to give away to lucky Knitting readers. To be in with a chance to win, send your name and address on a postcard to K38/Patons Skinny Scarf Giveaway, Knitting magazine, 86 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XN.

Knit the pretty Violet cardigan on page 43.

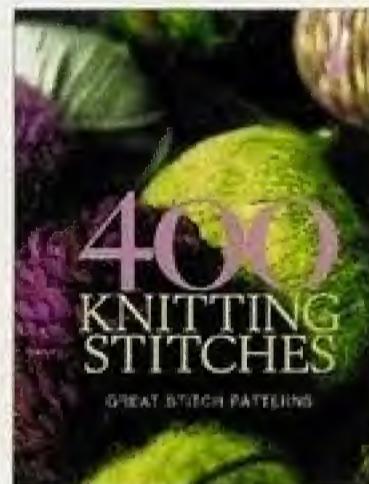
You can also win 50 balls of Patons Colour 4 Me yarn with our competition on page 80.



pavi
Yarns

Make the Retro Chic clutch bag for less!

Pavi Yarns is offering readers of Knitting 10% off its normal retail price of £11.95 for the Bloomsbury Gimp (Bourdon Cord) yarn used to make the bag in rich royal blue or black. To claim your discount, order via the website or by phone, quoting Knitting Offer 39. Ring 01665 606 062 between 9.00am to 5.00pm weekdays or visit www.paviyarns.com. Turn to page 75 and knit the clutch bag now.



Buy 400 Knitting Stitches for £12.99

Knitting readers can buy 400

Knitting Stitches for the special price of £12.99 (RRP £14.99) including free p&p. Call MDL on 01256 302 699 and quote offer code GLR P01 or send a cheque made payable to: MDL to Credit Control, Brunel Road, Hounds Mills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 6XS. Please allow 7 to 10 days for delivery.

Try out the stitches in our exclusive book extract on page 36.

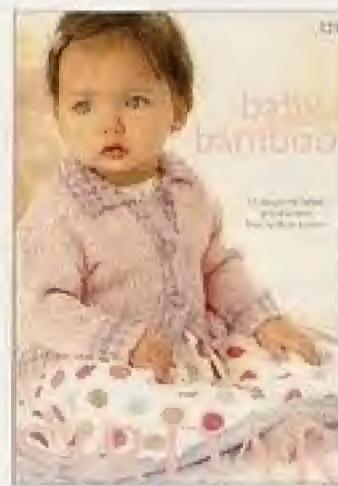
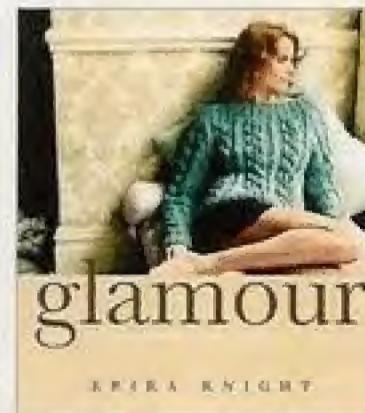
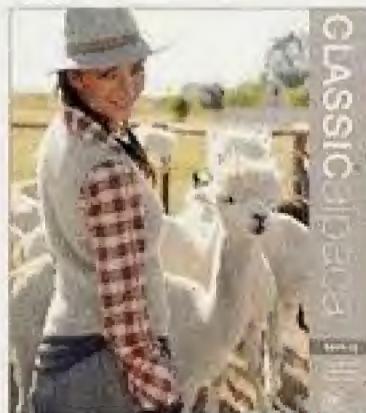
THIS MONTH'S BOOK EXTRACTS

Shrub cropped cardigan
from RYC Classic Alpaca
by Martin Storey

Cable waistcoat
from Glamour by Erika Knight

Diagonal baby blanket
from Baby Bamboo Knits
by Sirdar

For stockist details see page 84.



How to!

With colour 1 knit pick up 3 stitches through the edge of the knitting. Starting with a purl row, knit 9 more rows stocking stitch. With colour 2 knit pick up 3 stitches from the edge next to colour 1. Starting with a purl row knit 9 more rows stocking stitch. *Cross the colour 1 stitches over the colour 2 stitch as you would for a cable and using colour 1 knit through the stitch and edge of the knitting for the 3 colour 1 stitches. Work another 9 rows stocking stitch. Cross colour 2 stitches over colour 1 stitches and using colour 2 knit through the stitch and edge of the knitting for the 3 colour 2 stitches. Work another 9 rows stocking stitch.*

Repeat * to * along the piece of knitting you are edging. If you come to a corner you need to knit an extra couple of rows on both colours to keep the corner shape. When you reach the end of your piece of knitting, cast off the stitches in each colour as you work the last 'knit through the stitch and edge of the knitting'.

4



4. 2-colour mock-cable edging

Sample 4 is also based on a machine knitting edging. It is made from two lengths of stocking stitch. In colour 1, cast on 9 stitches. Work 4 rows of stocking stitch.

***Next row:** K4, yo, k2tog, k3.

Work 9 rows of stocking stitch*

Repeat * to * for the length of the braid and cast off finishing after the '9 rows stocking stitch'

In colour 2, cast on 9 stitches. Work 10 rows of stocking stitch.

Repeat * to * as given above for the length of the braid and cast off finishing after 5 rows stocking stitch.

Join the bands at one end with both bands having their knit side facing up the same way and with the colour 2 band on top. Pull the colour 2 piece of knitting down through the first eyelet hole in the colour 1 piece of knitting, and then pull colour 1 piece of knitting down through the first eyelet hole in colour 2. Continue alternately pulling colour 1 and colour 2 through the eyelet hole of the opposite piece until you reach the end of the two pieces of knitting. Sew the braid onto your main piece of knitting.

The pieces of knitting need to be longer than the edge they are to be joined to as they shorten when the two pieces are pulled through each other.

5



5. Knitted fringe

Sample 5 Cast on 20 stitches. *Knit 2 rows. Cast off 16 stitches and knit to the end of the row. Knit 4 stitches. Cast on 16 stitches.* Repeat these 4 rows for the required length of the fringe. On the last fringe you will cast off 20 instead of 16.

If you knit the fringe first you can pick up stitches along the garter stitch edge and continue knitting or you can knit the fringe at the end and sew it in place. I found when knitting the fringe that I had to be careful to match the tension of the cast on and cast off rows. If your cast on is looser than your cast off or vice versa the fringes will curl. This also makes an interesting edging but may not be what you are trying to achieve.

6



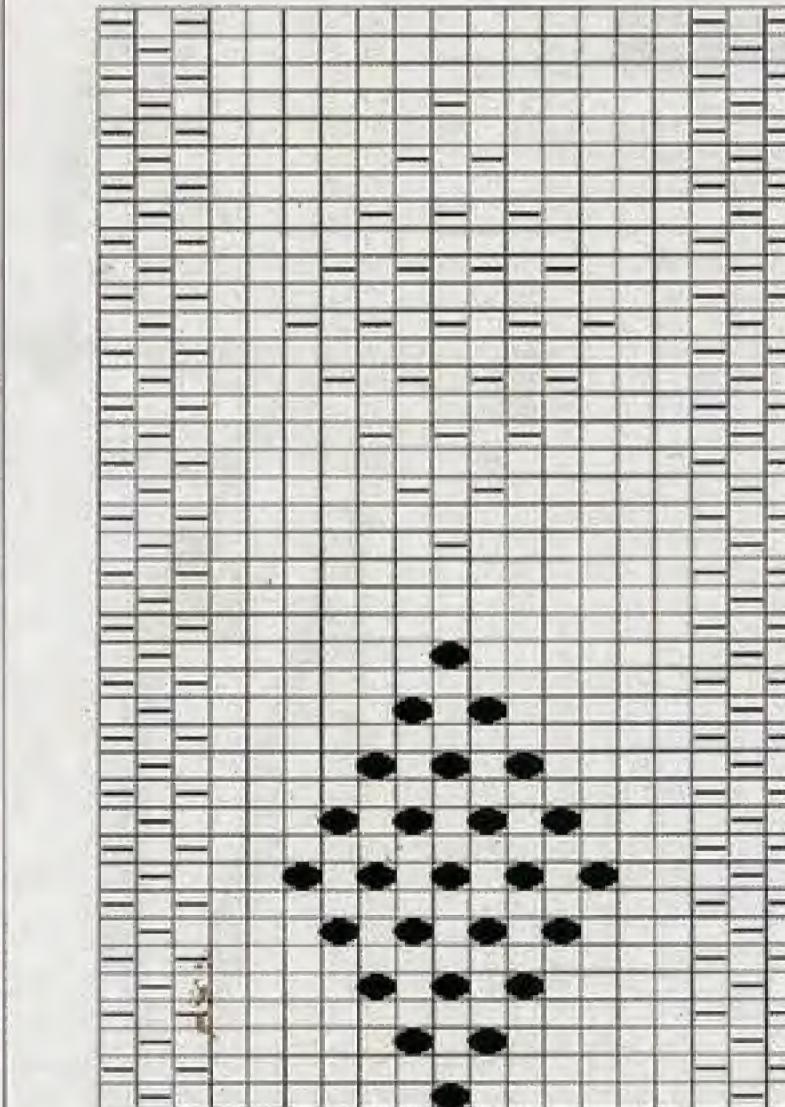
6. Bead and moss stitch edging

Sample 6 is an edging that combines beads and moss stitch on a stocking-stitch background. The beads have to be threaded onto the knitting yarn before starting to knit. In this sample I have used a slip stitch technique for the beading.

Knit to the point where the first bead is to be placed. Bring the yarn forward between the needles and push up a bead next to the stitch just knitted. Slip the next stitch to the right needle. Take the yarn back between the needles leaving the bead on the yarn in front of the slipped stitch and continue knitting.

I hope you have fun trying out some of these novelty edgings. Next month I will be looking at needle felting on knitting as well as felted knitting. ●

Pattern chart



- 1st and 1 row
Knit on RS rows
Purl on WS rows
- Purl on RS rows
Knit on WS rows
- Yf push up a bead sl the st and take yb leaving bead in front of slipped st

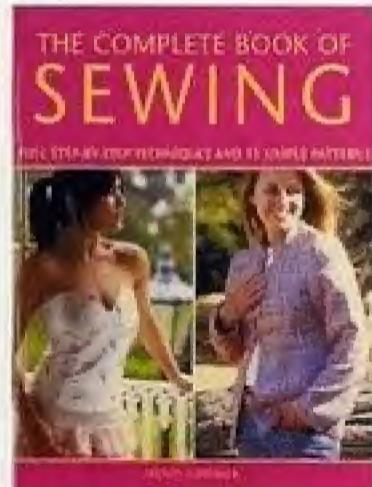
Book Reviews by Katie Allen



Heirloom knits

By Judith McLeod-Odell
£16.99
Published by Collins & Brown
ISBN 978 1 84340 387 6
Tel 020 7314 1400

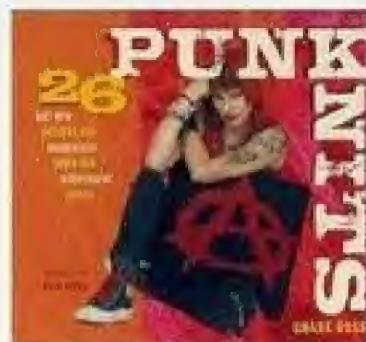
Rather like her designs, Judith McLeod-Odell's book is worth cherishing. Each of the 20 projects inside is inspired by a different decade from the 1820s to 2010, and Judith has made it her mission to revive long-lost stitch techniques with evocative names like 'Castle keep' and 'Godmother's edging'. These are patterns to be lingered over in the making and kept for years to come, such as the beautifully intricate Lacy leaf throw. Not a book for beginners, this is ideal for those looking to expand their skills, learn about the history of knitting, and make something to be treasured along the way.



The complete book of sewing

By Wendy Gardiner
£19.99
Published by New Holland
ISBN 978 1 84537 286 6
Tel 020 7724 7773

Like knitting before its revival, sewing has suffered in recent years – picking up a dress in Primark is far easier than buying all the components and learning to make it yourself. However the tide seems to be turning, as those of an ethical, anti-consumerist, environmentally-conscious or plain crafty persuasion look to more traditional skills. This guide is an excellent start, covering everything from threading sewing machines to choosing fabric to scary-sounding-but-actually-OK methods such as adding interfacing, darts and zips or creating collars, cuffs and pleats. There is also a section on curtain making plus a gallery of classic patterns.

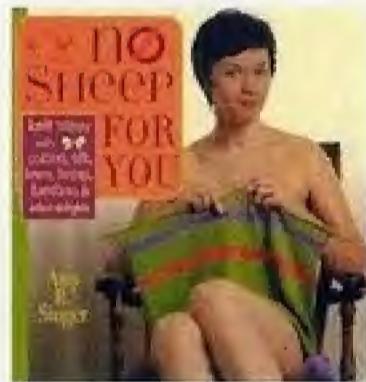


Punk knits

By Share Ross
£10.99
Published by Stewart, Tabori & Chang
ISBN 978 1 58479 583 4

Tel 020 7713 2062

The DIY ethos of punk perfectly suits the craft of knitting, especially when united with the aesthetic of safety pins, rips, skull motifs and mis-matched colours in this new book. There are 26 designs inspired by musicians from Sid Vicious to Siouxsie Sioux, including a felted top hat and guitar strap, as well as cardigans and sweaters. Containing all the basics (with emphasis on dropped stitches of course) this is a fun book, and any anarchists you know will love it. Although authors who keep using the patronising criticism of knitting 'no longer being for grannies' have clearly not met mine or seen the new Knitting!



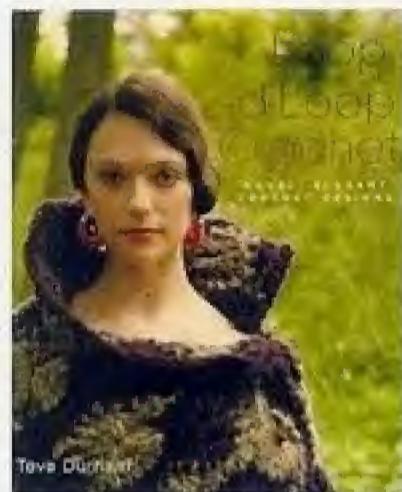
No sheep for you

By Amy R Singer
£16.99
Published by Interweave Press
ISBN 978 1 59668 012 8

Distributed in the UK by Search Press.
Tel 01892 510850.

For knitters allergic to wool or those who simply dislike using it, the alternative for a long time has only been acrylic. However, there is

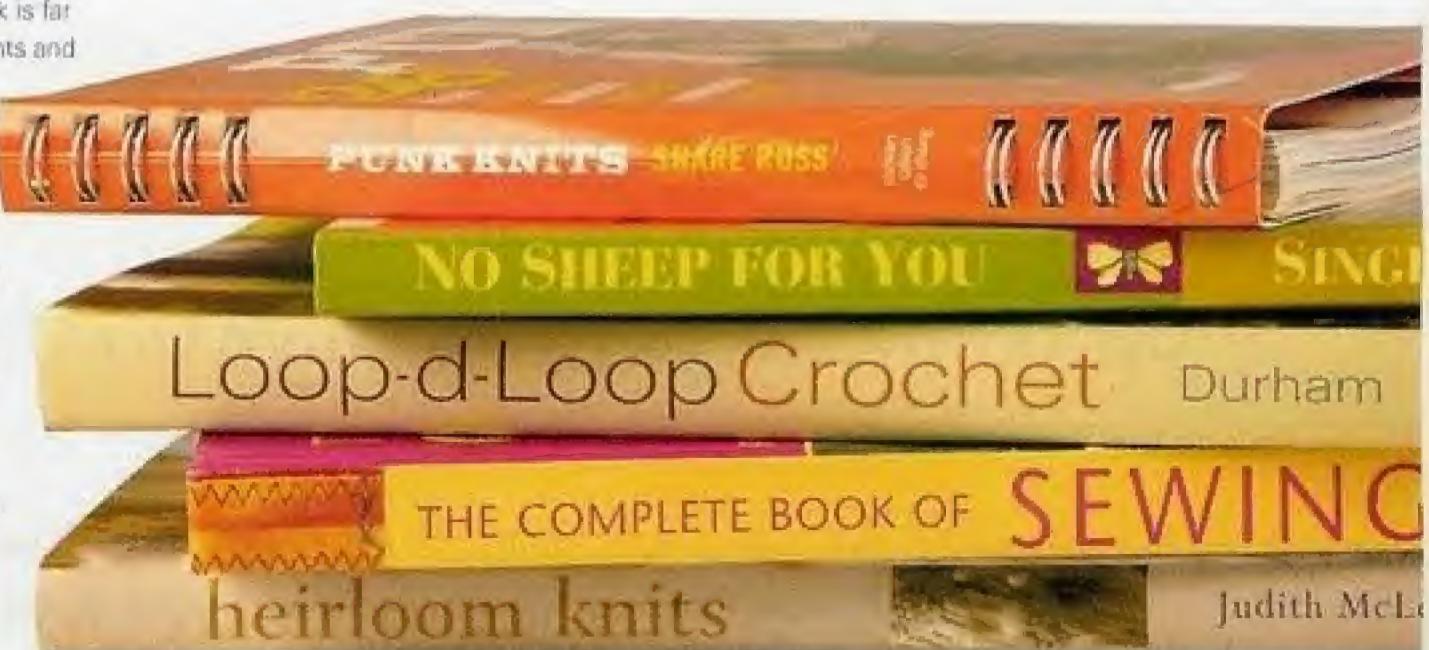
now a wealth of planet- and skin-friendly natural options including cotton, silk, linen, soy, bamboo and hemp plus man-made choices including nylon and Lycra. Amy R Singer offers a helpful guide to the properties and possibilities of all these, plus 21 modern patterns including the Manly Maze hemp jumper and No-Wool socks made from a polypropylene and soy mix yarn. Amy really knows her stuff and this is an ideal book for those taking the leap from sheep.



Loop-d-loop

By Teva Durham
£15.99
Published by Apple Press
ISBN 978 1 84543 206 5
Tel 020 7284 7162

Teva Durham describes herself as using 'old-fashioned techniques' to create styles 'rough-hewn yet delicate, stark yet feminine, organic yet structured'. There is certainly nothing old-fashioned about her designs, such as the saucy picot mesh skirt and dramatic Catherine wheel cape, or the hip-slung belt perfect for both corseting ladies and circling the hips of a pirate of the Caribbean. Being a knitter barely out of the starting blocks, crochet has always been something I'll learn sometime 'later'. However Loop-d-loop's clear diagrams and comprehensive instructions, plus edgy photography and over 25 very cool designs will almost certainly tempt me from needles to hook. ☺



Tips for success

We pass on the secrets that might take you years to learn the hard way!

How much yarn?

Our patterns tell you how much yarn each designer used, but if you know you tend to knit tightly, buy extra yarn, just in case!

Match the swatch

To match the sizes and measurements given in our patterns you must make a tension swatch (gauge) before knitting the project.

If your swatch turns out larger than ours, try again using smaller needles. If it is too small, try larger needles.

How to sew up

- 1 Before you sew knitted pieces together, pin the pieces flat to the measurements given on our diagrams.
- 2 Now steam press, lightly steam or spray lightly with water depending on washing instructions on the ball band.
- 3 Allow pieces to cool and dry before sewing up.
- 4 To sew up use a neat back stitch using the yarn you knitted with. Or, if the yarn is textured and hard to sew, use a smooth matching yarn – cotton with cotton, wool with wool, etc, and use mattress stitch.
- 5 Many garments can be made up by sewing shoulder seams first, then setting in sleeve head to armhole then completing by sewing along the long seam of the sides and sleeves. Each pattern has extra tips where necessary.
- 6 Darn in all ends and finish seams by lightly steaming from wrong side, provided the yarn can be steamed. All measurements shown to nearest 0.5cm or 0.5in. Measurements on diagrams are given in cm.

Swap yarns!

Discovering old patterns is a joy, but isn't it frustrating when you can't get the yarn specified? Don't give up, swap old for new!

- 1 Pick a modern yarn that you like, with a similar look, composition and weight to the one in the old pattern.
- 2 Knit a tension swatch (gauge) and compare it to the one given in the pattern. If they both come out to the same size, you're onto a winner!
- 3 Calculate how much yarn to buy. Many patterns tell you the length of yarn in each ball as well as the weight. So if the pattern uses 10 balls at 130 metres per ball, you know you need up to 1,300 metres of yarn. Check the length per ball of your new yarn and divide the total yarn length by the length in 1 ball to get the number of balls you need to make the garment.
- 4 Compare the total weight of each yarn length. For example if the original pattern had 10 balls at 50g each, the total weight would be 500g. Now that you have worked out how many balls of new yarn you are buying, just multiply the number of balls by the weight per ball. That should roughly match the 500g total that you had for the old yarn. It's just another way to check that you are on the right track.

- 5 Use this same method to substitute yarns for modern patterns, where the yarn is too expensive or difficult to obtain, or if you just want to use up yarn in your stash. Easy really! If you are lucky enough to have a yarn shop near you, it is also wise to show the pattern to the owner to get a second opinion before buying the new yarn. The advertisements in Knitting magazine are full of sources of wonderful yarn. Many wool shops also sell on the Internet or by mail order. Happy browsing! ■

Knitting Language

K (or k)	knit	inc	increase
P (or p)	purl	dec	decrease
st(s)	stitch(es)	beg	beginning
st st	stocking stitch	alt	alternate
(k1 row, p1 row rep the 2 rows)		foli	following
g-st	garter stitch	rnd	round
(every row k)		rep	repeat
sl	slip	pat	pattern
sk	slip, slip, knit	rem	remaining
(slip 2 consecutive sts then insert left needle back into the front of the 2 sts and k the two slipped sts together) - ie this forms a decrease		cont	continue
psso	pass slip stitch over	cm	centimetre(s)
skpo	st1, k1, pass slip st over the one just knitted	CN	cable needle
lp(s)	loop(s)	C6h	slip next 3 sts onto a CN and hold sts at back of the knitting, knit the next 3 sts and then the 3 sts from the CN
tbl	through back loop	C6f	slip next 3 sts onto a CN and hold sts at front of the knitting, knit the next 3 sts and then the 3 sts from the CN
(ie ktbl or k tbl = k next st through back loop)		L	left
yf	yarn forward	R	right
	(ie yarn to front)	RS	right side
yb	yarn back (ie yarn to back)	WS	wrong side
yo	yarn over needle to make a stitch (can mean yarn round needle to make a stitch)	RH	right hand
		LH	left hand
k-wise	knit wise		
(ie as if to k st)			
p-wise	purl wise		
(ie as if to p st)			
m1	make 1 by picking up thread before next st and k into back of it		

Crochet

ch	chain
dc	double crochet (US sc)
htr	half treble (US hdc)
tr	treble (US dc)
dtr	double treble (US tr)

Needle know-how

Metric (mm)	Old UK	USA	Metric (mm)	Old UK	USA
.2	14	0	5	6	8
2.25	13	1	5.5	5	9
2.5	—	—	6	4	10
2.75	12	2	6.5	3	10.5
3	11	—	7	2	—
3.25	10	3	7.5	1	—
3.5	—	4	8	0	11
3.75	9	5	9	0.00	13
4	8	6	10	0.00	15
4.5	7	7			

Your patterns start here



Shrub cropped cardigan from RYC Classic Alpaca
by Martin Storey

Main page: 14

SIZES

To fit size: 8[10:12:14:16:18]

To fit bust: 81[86:91:97:102:107]cm
(32[34:36:38:40:42]in)

Actual measurement: 86[90:94:101:106:112]cm
(34[35.5:37:40:42:44]in).

Length: 42[42:42:45:45:47]cm
(16.5[16.5:16.5:18:18:18.5]in).

Sleeve seam: 46[46:47:47:48:48]cm
(18[18:18.5:18.5:19:19]in).

*Figures in square brackets refer to larger sizes,
where there is only one set of figures this
applies to all sizes.*

YOU WILL NEED

Rowan RYC Baby Alpaca DK

100% Baby alpaca (100m per 50g)

8[8:9:9:10:10] x 50g balls in 203 Kashmir

1 pair each of 3.25mm and 4mm needles

1 x 3.25mm circular needle

3 Buttons (00319)

Note: Yarn amounts given are based on
average requirements and are approximate.

TENSION

22 sts and 30 rows to 10 cm over st st using
4mm needles

Use larger or smaller needles if necessary
to obtain correct tension.

ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 64

BACK

Using 3.25mm needles cast on
85[89:93:101:107:113] sts.

Row 1 (RS): K2[0:0:0:1:0], P3[1:3:1:3:1].
*K3, P3, rep from * to last 2[4:0:4:1:4] sts,
K2[3:0:3:1:3], P0[1:0:1:0:1].

Row 2: P2[0:0:0:1:0], K3[1:3:1:3:1], *P3, K3,
rep from * to last 2[4:0:4:1:4] sts, P2[3:0:3:1:3],
K0[1:0:1:0:1].

These 2 rows form rib. Work in rib for a further
26 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm needles.

Beg with a knit row, work in st st, shaping side
seams by inc 1 st at each end of 7th and every
 foll 6th row until there are 95[99:103:111:117:123]

sts. Work 7[7:3:13:9:15] rows, ending with RS
facing for next row. (Back should measure
21[21:20:23:22:24] cm (8[8:9:8.5:9.5]in))

Shape armholes

Cast off 5[6:6:7:7:8] sts at beg of next 2 rows,
85[87:91:97:103:107] sts. Dec 1 st at each end of
next 3[3:3:3:5:5] rows, then on foll 3[3:4:5:5:5] alt
rows, then on foll 4th row, 71[73:75:79:81:85] sts.
Work straight until armhole measures
20[20:21:21:22:22]cm (8[8:8:8.5:8.5]in), ending
with RS facing for next row.

Shape shoulders and back neck

Cast off 6[7:7:8:8:8] sts at beg of next 2 rows,
59[59:61:63:65:69] sts.

Next row: (RS) Cast off 6[7:7:8:8:8] sts, knit
until there are 11[10:11:11:11:13] sts on R needle
and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder. Work
each side of neck separately. Cast off 4 sts at
beg of next row. Cast off rem 7[8:7:7:9] sts.
With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts,
cast off centre 25[25:26:26:27:27] sts,
knit to end. Complete to match first side,
reversing shapings.

LEFT FRONT

Using 3.25mm needles cast on 43[45:47:51:54:57] sts.

Row 1: (RS) K2[0:0:0:1:0], p3[1:3:1:3:1].

*k3, p3; rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.

Row 2: P2, k3, *p3, k3, rep from * to last

2[4:0:4:1:4] sts, p2[3:0:3:1:3], k0[1:0:1:0:1].

These 2 rows form rib. Work in rib for a further 26 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm needles and starting with a knit row, work in st st thus:

Shape front slope

Dec 1 st at end of next and 4[4:3:0:3:0] foll 4th rows, then on 3[3:3:7:4:7] foll 6th rows and at same time inc 1 st at beg of 7th and 4 foll 6th rows, 40[42:45:48:51:54] sts. Complete to match left front, reversing shapings.

Shape armhole

Cast off 5[6:6:7:7:8] sts at beg of next row, 35[36:39:41:44:46] sts. Work 1 row. Dec 1 st at armhole edge of next 3[3:3:3:5:5] rows, then on foll 3[3:4:5:5:5] alt rows, then on foll 4th row and at same time dec 1 st at front slope edge of next[next:next:3rd:next:next] and every foll 6th row, 25[26:28:29:29:31] sts. Dec 1 st at front slope only of 6th[6th:4th:4th:6th:6th] and 5[5:6:4:5:5] foll 6th rows, then on foll 0[0:0:8th:0:0] row, 19[20:21:23:23:25] sts. Work straight until L front matches back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 6[7:7:8:8] sts at beg of next and foll alt row. Work 1 row. Cast off rem 7[6:7:7:9] sts.

RIGHT FRONT

Using 3.25mm needles cast on 43[45:47:51:54:57] sts.

Row 1: (RS) K2, p3, *k3, p3; rep from * to last 2[4:0:4:1:4] sts, k2[3:0:3:1:3], p0[1:0:1:0:1].

Row 2: P2[0:0:0:1:0], k3[1:3:1:3:1], *p3, k3, rep from * to last 2 sts, p2.

These 2 rows form rib. Work in rib for a further 26 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm needles. Beg with a knit row, work in st st thus:

Shape front slope

Dec 1 st at beg of next and 4[4:3:0:3:0] foll 4th rows, then on 3[3:3:7:4:7] foll 6th rows and at same time inc 1 st at end of 7th and 4 foll 6th rows, 40[42:45:48:51:54] sts. Complete to match left front, reversing shapings.

SLEEVES

Using 3.25mm needles cast on 51[51:53:53:55:55] sts.

Row 1: (RS) K0[0:1:1:2:2], p3, *k3, p3.

rep from * to last 0[0:1:1:2:2] sts, k0[0:1:1:2:2].

Row 2: P0[0:1:1:2:2], k3, *p3, k3, rep from * to last 0[0:1:1:2:2] sts, p0[0:1:1:2:2].

These 2 rows form rib. Work in rib for a further 22 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm needles. Beg with a knit row, cont in st st, shaping sides by inc 1 st at each end of 9th[7th:7th:7th:7th:7th] and every foll 10th[8th:8th:8th:8th:8th] row to 71[61:61:71:69:79] sts, then on every foll -[10th:10th:10th:10th:10th] row until there are -[73:75:77:79:81] sts. Work straight until sleeve measures

46[46:47:47:48:48]cm (18[18:18.5:18.5:19:19]in), ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape top

Cast off 5[6:6:7:7:8] sts at beg of next 2 rows, 61[61:63:63:65:65] sts. Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on foll 3 alt rows, then on every foll 4th row until 37[37:39:39:41:41] sts rem. Work 1 row.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row until 29 sts rem, then on foll 3 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. Cast off rem 23 sts.

TO FINISH OFF

Press as given on ball band. Join both shoulder seams using back stitch, or mattress stitch if preferred.

Front band

With RS facing and using 3.25mm circular needle, beg and ending at cast-on edges, pick up and knit 20 sts up right front opening edge to beg of front slope shaping, 101[101:101:107:109:112] sts up R front slope, 33[33:33:33:35:35] sts from back.

101[101:101:107:109:112]sts down L front slope to beg of front slope shaping, then 20 sts down L front opening edge, 275[275:275:287:293:299] sts.

Row 1: (WS) K1, p3, *k3, p3, rep from * to last st, k1.

Row 2: K4, *p3, k3, rep from * to last st, k1.

These 2 rows form rib. Work in rib for 1 row more, ending with RS facing for next row.

Row 4: (RS) Rib 2, (work 2 tog, ym - to make a buttonhole, rib 6) twice, work 2 tog, yrn (to make 3rd buttonhole), rib to end. Work in rib for a further 3 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. Cast off in rib.

Set in sleeves. Join side and sleeve seams.

43[45:47:50.5:53:56]

32[33:34:36:37:38.5]

11.5[11.5:11.5:11.5:13:13]

1
20[20:21:
21:22:22]

21[21:20:23:22:24]



38.5[40.5:42:46:48.5:51.5]

10

32[33:34;
35:36:37]

Sleeve

46[46:47:47:48:48]

23[23:24:24:25:25]

CHARTS: ALL MEASUREMENTS ARE IN CM



Cable waistcoat from Glamour by Erika Knight

Main page: 15

SIZES

To fit dress size: 8 [10:12:14:16:18]

To fit bust: 81[86:91:96:102:107]cm
(32[34:36:38:40:42]in)

Actual bust: 76[81:86:91:97:102]cm
(30[32:34:36:38:40]in)

YOU WILL NEED

9 [9:10:10:11] x 25g balls of any fine-weight metallic yarn, such as **Rowan Lurex Shimmer**, **Madeira Noro**, **Twilleys Goldfingering**

1 pair 3mm needles

1 pair 3.25mm needles

3mm circular knitting needle

5-7 press studs

5-7 mother-of-pearl buttons

TENSION

32 sts and 32 rows to 10cm over single rib





Breeze frilled vest top by Sirdar

Main page: 16

SIZES

To fit dress size: 10[12:14:16:18:20]

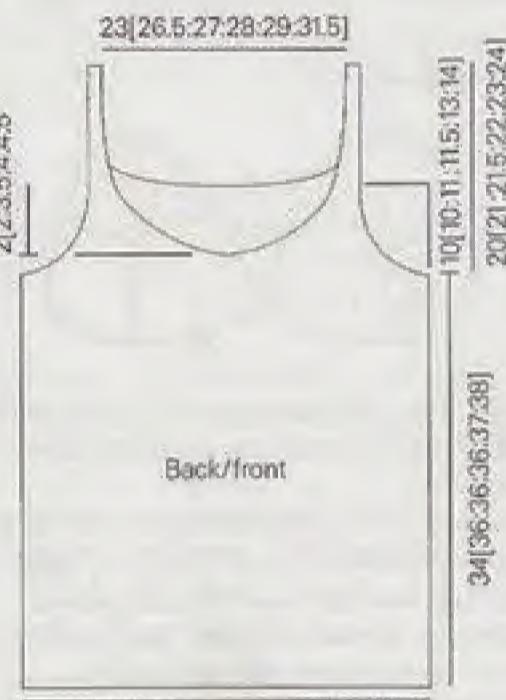
To fit bust: 81[86:91:97:102:107]cm
(32[34:36:38:40:42])in

Actual measurement: 73[79:83:89:94:99]cm
(29:31:33:35:37:39)in.

Length: 54[56:57:58:60:62]cm
21[22:22.5:23:24:24.5]in

This garment is designed to be very close fitting and will stretch to give the fit shown in the photograph.

Figures in square brackets refer to larger sizes, where there is only one set of figures this applies to all sizes.



BACK

Using 3.25mm needles and thumb method cast on 102[110:116:124:132:138]sts.

Starting with a knit row, work in st-st throughout. Work until back measures 34[36:36:36:37:38]cm, (13.5[14:14:14:14.5:15])in, ending with a WS row.

Shape armholes

Cast off 6[6:7:7:8:8]sts at beg of next 2 rows, 90[98:102:110:116:122]sts. Work 6[4:4:8:10:10] rows dec 1 st at each end of every row, 78[80:94:94:96:102]sts**.

Work 13[15:17:15:13:13]rows dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row, 64[74:76:78:82:88]sts. Work 15[15:17:17:21:25] rows more without shaping.

Shape neck

Next row: K11, turn, leave rem

53[63:65:67:71:77]sts on a stitch holder.

Working on these 11 sts only work thus:-

Next row: Cast off 2 sts, purl to end, 9 sts.

Next row: Knit to last 2 sts, k2tog, 8 sts.

Rep last 2 rows twice more, 2 sts.

Next row: P2tog. Fasten off.

With RS facing, working on rem

53[63:65:67:71:77]sts, slip 42[52:54:56:60:66]sts onto a stitch holder, rejoin yarn to rem 11 sts, and knit to end.

Next row: Purl to last 2 sts, p2tog, 10 sts.

Next row: Cast off 2 sts, knit to end, 8 sts. Rep last 2 rows twice more, 2 sts.

Next row: P2tog. Fasten off.

FRONT

Work as given for back to **.

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th sizes only:

Work [2:6:4:2:6] rows dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll [0:2nd:2nd:0:2nd] row, [88:88:90:94:96]sts.

All 6 sizes:

Shape neck

Next row: K2tog, k28[33:33:33:35:36], turn, leave rem 48[53:55:57:59]sts on a stitch holder. Working on these 29[34:34:34:36:36]sts only work thus:-

Next row: Cast off 2[3:3:3:3:3]sts, purl to end, 27[31:31:31:33:33]sts.

Next row: K2tog, knit to last 2 sts, k2tog,

25[29:29:29:31:31]sts.

Rep last 2 rows [3:2:2:2:2] times more.

13[19:19:19:21:21]sts.

1st size only: Work 4 rows dec 1 st at each end of 2nd and foll alt row, 9 sts.

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th sizes only:

Cast off 2 sts, purl to end, 17[17:17:19:19]sts.

2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th sizes only:

Work [5:3:3:3] rows dec 1 st at armpit edge in next and every foll alt row at same time dec 1 st at neck edge in every row, [9:12:12:14]sts.

3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th sizes only:

Work [3:3:5:12] rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in every row, [9:9:7]sts.

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th sizes only:

Work 6[6:5:5:3] rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in 2nd[2nd:1st:1st:1st] and every foll alt row, 6[6:6:7]sts.

All 6 sizes: Work 16[16:16:16:20:19] rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in 4th[4th:4th:4th:4th:3rd] and every foll 4th row, 2 sts.

Next row:

P2tog. Fasten off.

With RS facing, working on rem

48[53:53:55:57:59]sts, slip 18[18:18:20:20:22]sts onto a stitch holder, rejoin yarn to rem 30[35:35:35:37:37]sts and knit to last 2 sts, k2tog, 29[34:34:34:36:36]sts.

Next row:

Purl.

Next row: Cast off 2[3:3:3:3:3]sts, knit to last 2 sts, k2tog, 26[30:30:30:32:32]sts.

Next row:

Purl to last 2 sts, p2tog.

25[29:29:29:31:31]sts. Rep last 2 rows

3[2:2:2:2:2] times more. 13[19:19:19:21:21]sts.

1st size only: Work 3 rows dec 1 st at each end of next and foll alt row, 9 sts.

2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th sizes only:

Next row: Cast off 2 sts, knit to last [2:2:2:0] sts, (k2tog)[1:1:1:0] times.

[16:16:16:18:19]sts. Work [5:2:2:2:2] rows dec 1 st at neck edge in every row at same time dec 1 st at armpit edge in [2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:0] and foll [2nd:0:0:0:0] row, [9:13:13:15:17]sts.

3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th sizes only:

Work [5:5:8:10] rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in every row, [8:8:7:7]sts.

1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th sizes only: Work 6[5:3:3] rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in 2nd[1st:1st:1st] and every foll alt row, 6[6:6:6]sts.

All 6 sizes: Work 16[16:16:16:20:19] rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in 4th[4th:4th:4th:4th:2nd] and every foll 4th row, 2 sts.

Next row:

P2tog. Fasten off.

FRILL

Using 3.25mm needles and thumb method cast on 179[187:187:199:207:211]sts.

Row 1: K1, *yfwd, k2tog, rep from * to end.

Rows 2, 4 and 6: Purl.

YOU WILL NEED

Sirdar Luxury Soft Cotton 4 ply

(F065) 100% cotton (208m per 50g ball)

3[3:3:3:4:4] 50g balls in 864

1 pair each of 3.25mm and 2.75mm needles.
Stitch holders.

Note: Yarn amounts given are based on average requirements and are approximate.

TENSION

28 sts and 36 rows to 10 cm over st-st using 3.25mm needles

Use larger or smaller needles if necessary to obtain correct tension.

ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 64

Row 3: Knit.
Row 5: * K2tog, rep from * to last st, k1.
 90[94:94:100:104:106] sts.
Row 7: Knit.
 Break off yarn, leave these sts on needle.

ARMHOLE BORDERS

(Both alike)

Sew side seams. With RS facing, using 2.75mm needles pick up and knit 81[81:85:93:101:109] sts evenly all round armhole edge. Work 3 rows in g-st inc 1 st at each end of every row; 87[87:91:99:107:115] sts. Cast off k-wise.

NECK EDGING

With RS facing, starting at R side of back neck, using 2.75mm needles pick up and knit 4 sts evenly along armhole edging, 10 sts evenly along R side of back neck, knit across 42[52:54:56:60:66] sts left on a stitch holder at back of neck, 10 sts evenly along left side of back neck, 4 sts evenly along armhole edging, cast on 40 sts, pick up and knit 4 sts evenly along armhole edging, 34[36:36:38:40:40] sts evenly along L side of front neck, 18[18:18:20:20:22] sts left on a stitch holder at front neck, 34[36:36:38:40:40] sts evenly along R side of

front neck, 4 sts along armhole edging and cast on 40 sts. 244[258:260:268:276:284] sts.

Next row: K42, with WS of frill to RS of work (knit tog 1 st from neckband and 1 st from frill) 90[94:94:100:104:106] times, knit to end. Work 1 row more in g-st. Cast off k-wise.

TO FINISH OFF

Sew strap to back. Pin out garment to correct measurements given on front page. Cover with damp cloths and leave until dry. See ball band for washing and further care instructions.



Main page: 17

SIZES

To fit bust: 81[86:91:96]cm (32[24:36:38]in)

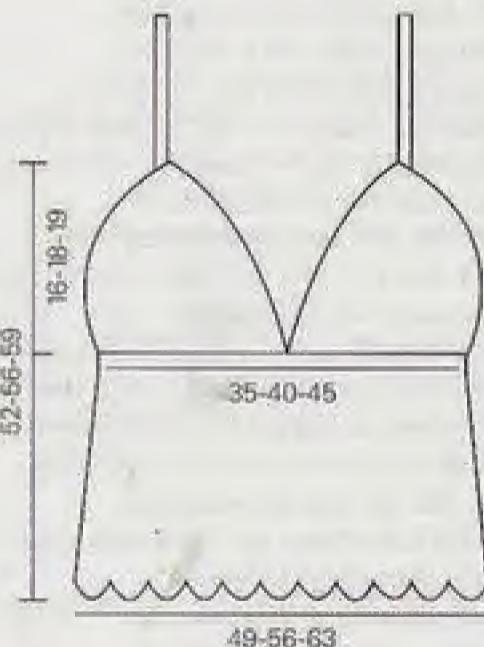
Actual measurement under bust:

70[80:90]cm (27.5[31.5:35.5]in)

Length: (to top of bra exc straps)

52[56:59]cm (20.5[22:23]in)

Figures in square brackets refer to larger sizes, where there is only one set of figures this applies to all sizes.



TENSION

14tr and 8 rows to 10 cm over patt using 4.5mm hook

Use larger or smaller hook if necessary to obtain correct tension.

ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 64

TIPS

At beg of each row replace the 1st tr with 3 ch, and at beg of each row with dtr replace the 1st dtr with 4 ch.

Finish each row thus: Crochet 1 tr/dtr in the last ch from beg of the previous row.

Stripes

1 row in each of B, A, F, E, D, C and A Rep this sequence once more (2 complete repeats in all.)

BIKINI TOP

One side

Using 4.5mm hook and A, loosely crochet 12[13:14] ch (inc 3 ch to turn with).

Row 1: 1 tr in 4th ch from hook, 1 tr in each of the next 8[9:10] ch, 10[11:12] tr, turn the piece. Starting and ending row as patt notes, work 5[6:7] rows with 1 tr in each tr, 6[7:8] rows in all.

Next row: Work 10[11:12] tr (ie. 1 tr in each tr from previous row), work 4 tr in the corner and 11[12:14] tr along the other side of the square, 25[27:30] tr in all.

Turn the piece and crochet 6 rows with 1 tr in each tr from previous row, at the same time inc 1 tr at one side of piece (mid front) on every other row a total of 3 times, 28[30:33] tr.

NB: Inc 1 tr by working an extra tr in the outermost tr towards mid front. After the last row the piece measures approx 16[18:19]cm (6.5[7:7.5]in).

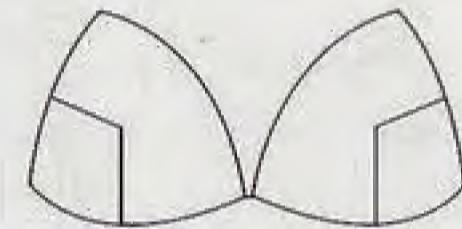
Second side

Work as first side reversing shaping.

ASSEMBLY

Place the 2 bikini pieces as shown in diag 1.

Diagram 1



Work 1 row of dc round the bikini-top to make an even edge holding the two bikini pieces together.

NB: Begin at the side of one piece; crochet all upper edges and finish with the lower edge - work approx 1 dc in each stitch and 2 dc in each row, and work 46[48:50] dc along the lower edge. Now crochet, very loosely,

41[51:61] ch and turn the piece. Work 1 tr in the 4th ch from the hook and then 1 tr in each of rem 83[95:107] ch/dc, 85[97:109] tr, turn the piece.

Lower part

Next row: 1 ch, 1 dc in first tr, *3 ch, 1 tr in the first of the 3 ch just crocheted, skip 2 sts, 1 dc in next st*, rep from *-* until the end of the row, 28[32:36] loops.

Start and work in stripes (see patt note) throughout.

Crochet sl sts to the top of the first loop, 4 ch (as first 1 dtr), *3 dtr, 3 ch, 3 dtr (= 1 dtr-group) at the top of next loop, 1 dtr at the top of the next loop*, rep from *-* and finish with 3 dtr, 3 ch, 3 dtr in last loop and 1 dtr in last dc, turn the piece, 14[16:18] dtr-groups.

Next row: 4 ch, *3 dtr, 3 ch, 3 dtr in the ch-loop in the dtr-group, 1 dtr in the dtr between

YOU WILL NEED

Garnstudio Paris 100% cotton, 75m per 50g ball. 3[4:4] x 50g ball in colour no17, off-white (A) 1 x 50g ball in each of 20 light rose (B),

25 moss green (C), 26 beige (D),

33 dark rose (E) and 45 orange (F)

1 x 4.5mm crochet hook

2 - 3 Mother of pearl buttons (nr. 552 for side slit).

Note: Yarn amounts given are based on average requirements and are approximate.

the tr-groups*, rep from *-* and finish with 1 tr-group in the last ch-loop and 1 dtr in the 4th ch from beg of previous row.

Turn the piece and crochet next row in the same way.

Now continue like this, but crochet round, ie cont the pattern with tr-groups in the ch-loops and 1 dtr in the dtr between the tr-groups, but skip the last dtr on row so that the pattern continues round the piece. When piece measures approx 36[38:40]cm 14[15:16]in

(measured from the bottom of the bikini top), cut the thread.

NB: Please note that because of the pattern, the lower edge will automatically become wavy - see measurement chart.

SIDE SPLIT

Crochet a row of dc along the split at the side, starting on the back piece.

Turn the piece and crochet a row of dc along the split on the front piece, at the same time

making 2-3 buttonhole loops thus:

1 dc, 4 ch, skip 2 dc and 1 dc in next st - place the first loop approx 1cm (0.5in) from the top.

SHOULDER STRAPS

Using A, loosely crochet 70[75:80] ch and attach with a sl st at the top of left bikini top. Work 3 ch and attach with a sl st 3 sts from the top at the side. Work 1 tr in each of the 70[75:80] ch, cut the thread. Repeat on right bikini top. Attach straps to back piece (crossed) or tie behind the neck.



Main page: 18

SIZES

Belt

To fit hips: 89-93[97-102:107-112:117-122]cm
35-36.6[38-40:42-44:46-48]in

Actual measurement: (inc ring but not ties)
88[97:107:117]cm (34.5[38:42:46]in)

Width: 6.5cm (2.5in)

Headband

Length: (exc ties) 50cm (19.5in)

Figures in square brackets refer to larger sizes, where there is only one set of figures this applies to all sizes.

YOU WILL NEED

1[2, 2, 2] x 50gm balls **Adriafil Cheope**

100% cotton in shade 51

One pair 3.25mm needles and one pair 3.25mm double pointed needles (to knit the cords)

Stitch holders

3[3, 4, 4] tubes size 6 seed beads in colour 131FR from **The Bead Merchant (0870 6093035)**

Heavy iron-on interfacing

Headband

1 x 50gm ball **Adriafil Cheope** 100% cotton in shade no. 51

One pair 3.25mm needles and one pair 3.25mm double pointed needles (to knit the cords)

2 tubes size 6 seed beads in colour 131FR from **The Bead Merchant (0870 6093035)**

Stitch holders

Note: Yarn amounts given are based on average requirements and are approximate.

TENSION

31 sts and 33 rows to 10cm over g-st and beaded patt using 3.25mm needles

Use larger or smaller needles if necessary to obtain correct tension.

ABBREVIATIONS

Sb1 - slip up 1 bead next to the stitch just

knitted and knit the next stitch.

M1 - make 1 stitch by putting the point of the left needle under the strand between the stitch just knitted and the next stitch from front to back and knit through the back of the loop.
For more abbreviations see page 64

TIPS

The beads are threaded onto to yarn before starting to knit. Beads are used throughout the garment. Thread approximately 2 tubes of beads to start the belt or headband. The unused beads are pushed along the knitting yarn until they are required so can cause the yarn to wear. It is better not to thread too many beads at a time. Use a beading needle or a fine sewing needle that will go through the holes in the beads to thread the beads onto the yarn. The beading needle is threaded with a transition thread which links the beading needle and knitting yarn in order to slide the beads onto the knitting yarn. It is better to thread the transition thread doubled through the eye of the needle to give you a loop to put the knitting yarn through.

Bead knitting

The pattern uses 2 different methods of knitting in the beads. In the main section of the belt/headband the beads are placed thus:
yf, sl 1 bead, yb

Knit to the point you want to place the bead. Yarn forward between the needles, push up a bead next to the stitch just knitted, slip the next stitch from the left to the right needle and take the yarn back between the needles leaving a bead sitting on the yarn in front of the slipped stitch. In the edging the beads are worked on a WS row thus: k2, sb1

Knit 2, slip a bead up next to the stitch just knitted and knit the next 2 sts.

The bead sits on the yarn between 2 sts and is only visible on RS of fabric.

I-Cord

Double pointed needles

Cast on 3sts and *knit 1 row Push sts to the other end of the needle and put the needle in your left hand. Pull the yarn across the back.* Rep from * to * for the required length. K3tog and pull yarn end through the loop.

Straight needles

Cast on 3sts and *knit 1 row Slip the 3sts back to the left hand needle. Pull the yarn across the back.* Rep from * to * for the required length. K3tog and pull yarn end through the loop.

I-cord cast off

Slip the 3 i-cord sts onto the left needle in front of the sts to be cast off. *k2, k2tog, slip 3 sts back to L needle and pull yarn across the back*. Rep from * to * until all sts have been cast off ie, only the 3 cord sts rem.

Attached I-cord (double pointed needles)

Cast on 3 sts. *K2, slip next stitch k-wise, put point of R needle through the edge of the knitting, knit the yarn through and pso. Slip the 3 to the other end of the needle; pull the yarn across the back*. Rep from * to * along the edge of the knitting.

BELT

(Approx 2 tubes of beads should be threaded onto the knitting yarn).

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn threaded with beads cast on 13 sts and work 4 rows st st. Following the chart for the position of the beads or g-st work in pattern until belt measures 80[90:100:110]cm and cast off.

EDGING

Knit pick up 200[224:250:275] sts (approx 3 sts for every 4 rows) and knit 2 rows.

Next row: *k2, sb1 rep from * to * to last 2 sts, k2.

Knit 1 row and break off yarn leaving sts on

in stitches

find out what's hip and happening in the knitting world

Please send details of your knitting events and news at least eight weeks in advance to Emma Brown,
Deputy Editor, Knitting, 86 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XN or email emmab@thegmcgroup.com

This month don't knit without...

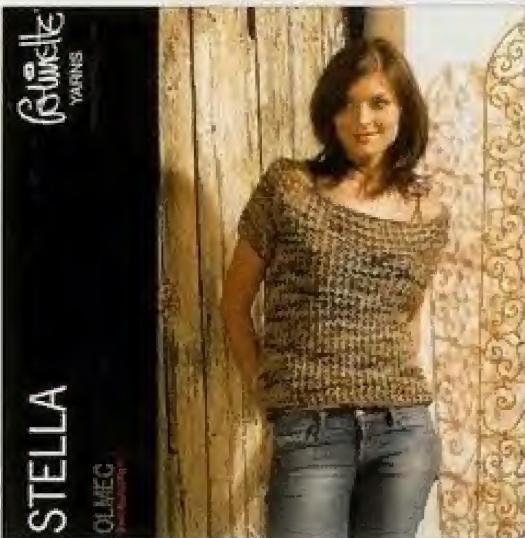
1



The new yarn on the block at Loop is so soft that you could easily mistake it for cashmere. Adding to Australia's growing reputation for producing the finest quality yarns, Pear Tree 100% merino is intricately blended to give subtle flecks in both the texture and the colour of all finished projects. It comes in an array of sumptuous shades with some stunning pattern support too. Buy it online now at www.loop.gb.com



2



Dip into Colinette's latest pattern book, *Stella*, for four colourful designs using the ever-popular Wigwam yarn. There's a summer

mesh top, a moss stitch jacket, a round neck sweater or cardigan and a simple tunic to brighten up your look and show off the vibrant colourways of the versatile yarn.

Stella is on sale at Colinette stockists nationwide.

Phone 01938 810 128 or order online at www.colinette.com

3

The Pony Rosewood range now comes in 13 different sizes for you to choose from. The gorgeous needles have a silky smooth touch to help the yarn slide along easily, no matter what stitch you're working in, and their points have been superbly designed to help avoid the yarn splitting. They're the ultimate in knitting luxury and ideal for arthritis sufferers too. Prices start at £8.99 and the needles are available at all good hobby and craft shops. For your nearest stockist phone 0118 973 5196 or email info@thekingdoms.co.uk



Row 35: K2, p17, * k1, p17, rep from * to last 19 sts, k1, p18.

Row 36: K18, p1, * k17, p1, rep from * to last 19 sts, k17, p2.

Rep from 1st to 36th row 7 times more.

Change to 3.25mm needles or 3.25mm circular needle if required and work in g-st for 3cm, (1in), ending with a RS row. Cast off k-wise.

SIDE EDGINGS

(Both alike)

With RS facing and using 3.25mm needles or 3.25mm circular needle if required pick up and knit 7 sts evenly along g-st edge, 225 sts evenly along side edge and 7 sts evenly along g-st edge. 239 sts. Work in g-st until edging measures 3cm, (1in), ending with a RS row. Cast off k-wise.

TO FINISH OFF

Pin out blanket to the measurement given.

Cover with damp cloths and leave until dry.

See ball band for washing and care instructions.



Main page: 20 & 21

Mexican Wave placemats and coasters by Alison Dupernex

SIZES

Placemat actual measurement:

26 x 27cm (10 x 10.5in)

Coaster actual measurement:

14 x 13cm (5.5 x 5in).

YOU WILL NEED

Rowan Glace 100% cotton (115m per 50g)

1 x 50g balls in each of 795 Butter (A),

741 Poppy (B), 445 Blood Orange (C), 812 Ivy (D),

816 Mocha Choc (E) and 814 Shoot (F).

1 pair 5mm needles

Note: Yarn amounts given are based on average requirements and are approximate.

TENSION

27 sts and 34 rows to 10cm over patt using 5mm needles

Use larger or smaller needles if necessary to obtain correct tension.

ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 64

TIPS

Row 1: (RS) K2, * insert needle from back to

front between first and 2nd sts on the LH needle, knit the 2nd stitch, then slip both sts off the needle together rep from *, ending in k1.

Row 2: P2, * slip next stitch and purl the 2nd stitch, then purl the slipped stitch, then slip both the stitches off the needle together, rep from *, ending in p1.

These 2 rows make a plaited woven pattern and are rep throughout.

NB: when changing colour leave a good 10 cm to sew in afterwards.

Using 5mm needles and B cast on 67 sts loosely. Working in patt (see notes) throughout, work 4 rows B. Now cont in stripes and patt thus:

Row 5-6: C

Row 7-8: B

Row 9-12: D

Row 13-16: C

Row 17-18: B

Row 19-20: A

Row 21-22: C

Row 23-24: E

Row 25-26: A

Row 27-28: F

Row 29-30: C

Row 31-34: B

Row 35-36: A

Row 37-38: E

Row 39-42: C

Row 43-44: F

Row 45-46: A

Row 47-50: B

Row 51-52: D

Row 53-54: E

Cast off loosely in patt using E

TO FINISH OFF

Sew in all ends at the back of the work. Press firmly.

COASTER

Using 5mm needles and B, cast on 35sts loosely. Work rows 17-46 as given for placemat sequence. Cast off loosely in patt using A.

TO FINISH OFF

Sew in all ends at the back of the work. Press firmly.



Roland Rabbit cuddly toy by Val Pierce

Main page: 23

SIZES

Actual measurement:

32cm (12.5in) from base to top of head

YOU WILL NEED

Wendy Darling DK 100% polyester (112m per 50g ball)

3 x 50g balls in 366 Beige (A)

1 x 50g ball in 361 Cream (B)

Small amounts of brown (C), orange (D) and green (E) DK

Pair of each 4.5mm and 3.75mm knitting needles

A pair of black safety eyes,

2 small brown buttons.

2 sts k2tog.

Next row: Purl

Next row: K2tog all across row to last st, k1

Next row: Purl

Next row: K2tog twice

Next row: Purl

Next row: K2tog and fasten off.

CARROT LEAVES

Using 3.75mm needles and E cast on 40 sts. Knit 2 rows and cast off.

TO FINISH OFF

Work in all ends neatly on pieces.

First take the body sections and with RS inside, sew together, leaving cast off edge open for stuffing, this is the neck edge. Turn RS out and stuff body, shape as you go. Close neck edge. Next fold arms in half lengthways, RS inside, sew up leaving an opening at the top to stuff. Turn RS out, shape them as you stuff. Don't over stuff the tops of the arms as you need to be able to stitch them to the body.

Legs and feet

Remembering that the seam runs down the top

of the leg from toe to base, sew neatly together, turn RS out. Stuff through the foot base and make a nice shape, use photograph as guide. Take a foot base and stitch neatly in place easing any fullness as you stitch, before finally closing insert a little more stuffing if needed. Repeat with the other foot.

Ears

Take one cream and one beige ear, with RS inside seam the two pieces together, leaving the base open to enable you to turn the fabric. Turn RS out, stitch ends slightly pleating them together to give a nice shape to the ear. Make other ear in the same way. Take some cream cotton and a small needle and working on the cream side of each ear, sew a tiny running seam all around the ears, this holds the two pieces together and shapes the ears as well.

Head

With RS of working inside, begin by joining the cream centre sections of the head together, now sew the gusset in place in the top opening matching the end of the gusset to the centre section, this will be the nose. Join the underside

of the head leaving a small opening to enable stuffing. Turn RS out. Before you begin to stuff, insert the safety eyes, use the photograph to give you an idea for placement. Once firmly in place, you can proceed to stuff the head. Shape it as you go along, when you are happy with the shape, close the final opening, gathering as you do so. Assemble the toy, beginning by stitching the legs and arms in place firmly to the body. Stitch the ears onto the head, then firmly attach the head to the body of the rabbit. Using C, add some features, use photograph as guide. Add some claws on his back legs as shown in picture. Using A make a small pom-pom for the rabbits tail, stitch firmly in position. Stitch the shoulder and side seams of the waistcoat, stitch on 2 buttons. To make carrot, fold in half and stitch up side seam, turn RS out. Stuff through top opening, run a gathering thread around opening and pull up tight. Work in ends on leaves, fold the work into loops and secure to top of carrot, use photograph as guide.



Main page: 24

SIZE

To fit age: 1 to 2 years

Actual measurement: 58cm (23in)

Length: 32cm (12.5in)

Sleeve seam: 17.5cm (7in)

YOU WILL NEED

Sirdar Snuggly Bubbly 100% polyester (128m per 50g ball)

3 x 50g balls in each of 198 Marshmallow (A) and 202 Putty (B)

Sirdar Snuggly DK 55% Nylon, 45% Acrylic (175m per 50g ball)

1 x 50g ball in 377 Putty (C)

Pair each of 3.75mm and 4 mm knitting needles

Crochet hook 3.5mm

5 buttons.

ABBREVIATIONS

Skp = sl1, k1 pss0

For more abbreviations see page 64

TENSION

24 sts and 35 rows to 10cm (4in) over stripe patt using 4mm needles.

TIPS

Moss stitch

A pattern created by alternately working one knit stitch and one purl stitch on every row. The purl stitch is worked over the knitted stitch on the subsequent row. Work a pattern swatch first (if you are not familiar with this stitch) thus: Cast on 10sts.

Row 1: * K1, p1, rep from * all across row.

Row 2: *P1, k1*, rep from * all across row. Continue in this way rep rows 1 and 2.

Stripes

8 rows A, 8 rows B.

These 16 rows form stripe patt and are rep throughout.

Note: Carry yarns not in use loosely up side of work twisting them together as you work to keep them tidy.

BACK

Using 3.75mm needles and C cast on 67 sts. Work 12 rows in moss stitch (see patt notes). Change to 4mm needles and stripe patt (see patt notes). Work straight until work measures approx 17.5cm (7in) - ending on purl row of 6th (B) stripe. Adjust length here if needed, but make sure that you end each piece of the jacket on the same colour sequence row to facilitate continuity of the pattern when sewing up. Keeping continuity of stripes

Shape armholes

Cast off 1 st at the beg of the next 2 rows.

Next row: K2 skp, patt to last 4sts, k2tog, k2.

Next row: Purl.

Keeping stripe pattern correct rep last 2 rows until 23sts rem. Cast off.

LEFT FRONT

Using 3.75mm needles and C cast on 39 sts. Working in moss stitch cont for 11 rows.

Row 12: Work across first 8 sts, slip these sts onto safety pin for front band, cont on rem 31 sts, moss stitch to end. Change to 4mm needles and A, working in st st and stripe sequence as for back cont until work measures the same as back (work 1 more row here for R front.)

Shape armhole

Cast off 1 st at beg of next row, purl 1 row. (omit this row for R front).

Next row: K2, skp, patt to end.

Next row: Purl.

Rep last 2 rows until 12 sts rem, finishing at front edge.

Shape neck

Row 1: Cast off 3 sts, work to end.

Next and foll alt rows: K2, skp, patt to end.

Row 3: Cast off 3 sts, work to end.

Row 5: Cast off 2sts, patt to end.

Row 7: K2, skp, k1.

Row 8: Cast off 2, p1.

Next row: K2tog. Fasten off.

RIGHT FRONT

Pocket lining

Using 4mm needles and A cast on 11 sts and work 22 rows stripe patt. Put sts on a holder. Using 3.75mm needles and B cast on 39 sts. work 6 rows moss stitch.

Next row: Make buttonhole, patt 3, cast off 2, patt to end.

Next row: Patt to end but cast on 2 sts above the cast off sts of previous row.

Continue until 10 rows have been worked.

Row 11: Moss stitch 8 sts, slip onto safety pin for front border, cont in patt to end.

Row 12: Work in moss stitch.

Change to 4mm needles and join in A.

Work in stripe patt until row 6 of third stripe has been worked.

Place pocket

Work 10, cast off 11, work 10 sts.

Next row: Purl 10, work across 11 sts of pocket lining, work 10 sts.

Keeping stripe sequence correct continue until work measures same as L front remembering to work 1 row less here so that armhole shaping will begin on opposite side of work.

Shape armhole and neck

Work as for L front but remembering to reverse all shapings and substitute skp for K2tog.

SLEEVES

Using 3.75mm needles and C, cast on 33 sts and work 18 rows moss stitch.

Change to 4mm needles and join in A, working in stripe patt inc 1 st at each end of 3rd row and then every foll 8th row, until 43 sts. Cont until sleeve measures the same as back to armholes, finishing on a matching row. Alter length here if needed.

Shape top

Keep stripe patt correct and carry yarns loosely up the side of the work. Cast off 1 st at beg

of next 2 rows.

Row 3: K2, skp, patt to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2.

Row 4: Purl.

Row 5: Work in stripe patt.

Row 6: Purl.

Rep last 4 rows, 4 times more, then the 3rd and 4th rows only until 9 sts rem and cast off.

HOOD

Using 4mm needles and A cast on 42 sts, join in C cast on 13 sts. Work in stripe patt as before, but keeping 13sts at end of row in moss stitch thus:

Row 1: Stripe sequence over 42sts, drop pink, join in green, moss stitch 13 sts.

Row 2: Moss stitch 13, drop C pick up A, patt to end. Twist yarns tog when changing yarns to stop holes and use a separate ball of C either end of work. Cont in this manner, working stripes and keeping the 13 sts moss stitch border correct as set.

When 17 stripes in all completed, cast off.

POCKET TOP

With WS of facing and using C and size 3.75mm needles, pick up and k13 sts from pocket top, work in moss stitch for 10 rows, cast off.

BUTTON BAND

Using 3.75 mm needles and C return to sts on stitch holder of L front. Cont in moss stitch until band, when slightly stretched fits up side of L front to neck shaping, cast off in patt.

BUTTON HOLE BAND

Using 3.75 mm needles return to sts on holder of R front and work as for button band making buttonholes approx 20 rows apart, until 5 buttonholes in all have been worked.

Moss stitch 4 more rows, cast off.

FLOWERS

Work 3

Using 3.5mm hook make 6 ch, join with a sl st to form a ring. Work 12 dc into ring.

join with a slip st.

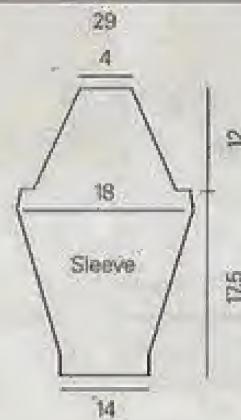
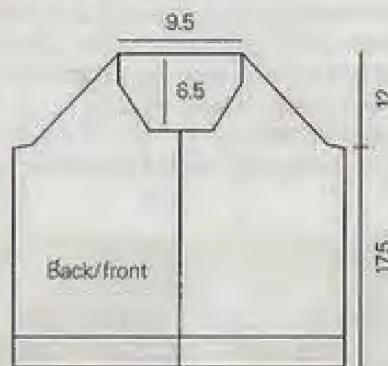
Next row: *3 ch, 2 tr into next ch 3 ch sl st into next ch, rep from* join to last dc.

Fasten off

TO FINISH OFF

Work all ends in neatly. Join sleeves to back and fronts matching stripes as you sew. Join side and sleeve seams, matching stripes.

Fold cuffs back on sleeves. Stitch pocket in place on wrong side of work. Stitch down pocket top onto RS of work. Attach flowers as in photograph. Fold front edge of hood in half onto RS, catch down at each side. Join back seam of hood. Stitch front bands in place stretching slightly to give a neat finish. Pin hood around neck edge, beg and end 5 sts in from each side of jacket. Sew in place. Sew on buttons to correspond with buttonholes.



Violet wrapover cardigan by Patons

Main page: 25

SIZES

To fit chest:

61[66:71:76]cm (24[26:28:30])in

Actual measurement:

66[71:76:81]cm (26[28:30:32])in

Length: 38[42:46:49]cm (15[16.5:18:19.5])in

Sleeve seam:

30[34:39:42]cm (12[13.5:15.5:16.5])in

Figures in square brackets refer to larger sizes, where there is only one set of figures this applies to all sizes.

YOU WILL NEED

Patons Diploma Gold 4ply (04249)

4[5:5:6] x 50g balls

1 pair each of 2.75mm and 3.25mm needles

1 2.75mm circular needle .

Note: Yarn amounts given are based on average requirements and are approximate.

TENSION

28 sts and 36 rows to 10cm over st st using 3.25mm needles. Use larger or smaller needles if necessary to obtain correct tension.



Birthday Treat knitted cards by Val Pierce

Main page: 26 & 27

SIZES

Approx: 15cm (6in) square

YOU WILL NEED

Card A: Happy Birthday to Ewe!!

Oddment of boucle yarn
Scraps of felt in black, green and brown.
Two pairs of googly eyes.
Green paper.
Leaf design: paper punch.
3 daisy flowers.
Pair of 3.75mm needles

Card B: Puppy Dog with Envelope.

A small oblong of hand made paper in pale blue.
Oddment of white 4ply cotton yarn.
Scraps of brown, flesh, pink and black felt.
Pair of googly eyes.
Small flower.

Card C: Busy Fingers

15cm Square Deckle edged card in white.
Oddment of 4ply cotton yarn.
Pair of 2.25mm needles.
6 cocktail sticks.
6 small beads.
Paper shapes hands
Tiny blue bows

All cards

15cm square deckle edged card
(cream for card A, white for B and C)
Peel off birthday stickers.
Length of stick-on ribbon
Craft glue

Note: Most good craft stores will stock everything listed if you do not already have these things to hand.

TENSION

Not critical provided a slight change of size is acceptable.

ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 64

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EWE!! (CARD A)

Mother sheep

Using 3.75mm needles and boucle yarn cast on 6sts and work in st st for 5 cm (2in). K2tog at each end of the row and foll alt row.
Cast off.

Lamb

Using 3.75mm needles and boucle cast on 4 sts and work in st st for 3cm (1.5in).
Cast off.

TO FINISH OFF

Work in all ends. Using templates, cut out heads, feet, grass, from the appropriate coloured felt. Position on the card as shown in picture. Glue wobbly eyes onto head of sheep and lamb, then glue heads onto bodies and legs. Attach with glue to the card using picture as guide. Stick daisies onto the grass. Cut a small "branch" shape from brown felt, add some leaves, (I used a paper punch to make mine, but you could just cut shapes using scissors). Add birthday peel off stickers and a tiny butterfly and your card is complete!

PUPPY DOG WITH ENVELOPE (CARD B)

Make envelope

Using size 2.25mm needles cast on 18 sts and knit 2 rows g-st.

Next row: Knit

Next row: K2, purl to last 2 sts k2.

Rep last 2 rows for 16 rows total.

Next row: Purl, thus reversing work for flap of envelope.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: K2, purl to last 2sts k2.

Make flap

Rows 1 and 3: K2, k1, sl 1, pss0.

K to last 4 sts. K2tog, K 2.

Row 2: K2, purl to last 2sts K2.

Row 4: K2, p2tobtbl, purl to last 4 sts, p2tob, k2.

Rep rows 3 and 4 until 6sts rem.

Next row: K1, k2tobtbl, k2tob, k1

Next row: K2tobtbl, k2tob

Next row: K2tob. Fasten off.

Work in ends. Fold flap over envelope, glue tiny flower on flap as shown in photograph.

TO FINISH OFF

Take the oblong of paper and glue centrally on your card. Place a piece of stick-on ribbon onto the outside edge of the card, press firmly and trim ends if needed. Now assemble the puppy dog. Using templates cut pieces for puppy dog from coloured felt. Place head piece onto the paper, stick down, add muzzle, using picture as guide to positioning. Glue tongue under front of muzzle. Stick nose onto centre of muzzle. Using a fine black pen mark muzzle as shown in picture. Place small black circles of eyes either side just above muzzle, again using picture as guide. Stick a googly eye in the centre of each circle. Place ears on each side of head folding

half of each ear over to the front and sticking down. Now position envelope below puppy, use a small amount of glue to attach. Leave flap loose. Place puppies paws over envelope and stick them down on each side, overlapping the envelope. Add outline stickers as desired and there you have your card ready to send !!

BUSY FINGERS (CARD C)

Make 3 pieces alike.

Using 2.25mm needles and cotton, cast on 6sts and work 12 rows g-st. Do not cast off but leave a tail of yarn long enough to wind into a tiny ball. Slip sts onto a spare needle to be transferred later.

TO FINISH OFF

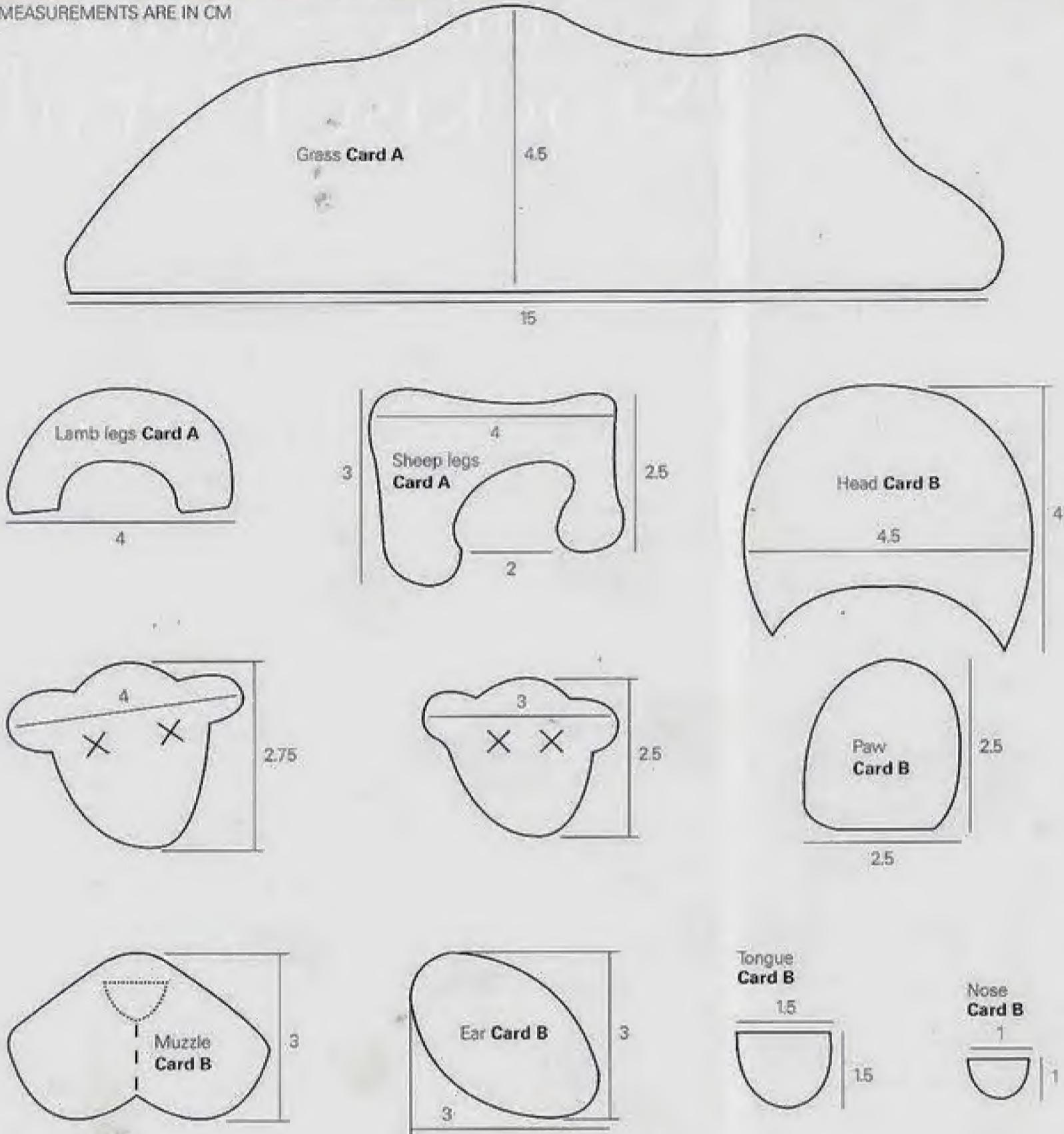
To make needles take two cocktail sticks, cut to desired length. Attach a bead to the end of each stick, pushing the cut off end of the stick into the hole in the bead. Secure with some craft glue. Make two more pairs of needles in the same way.

To assemble the card, using picture as a guide, stick paper hand shapes, ribbon bows and stick-on ribbon in place on the front of the card. Thread a tiny needle through the stitches left of a piece of knitting, wind the tail you left, into a small ball. Repeat the process with the other two tiny needles. Arrange in pairs of needles. Add the tiny sets of knitting needles, knitting and balls of yarn, secure with craft glue. Add the Happy Birthday outline sticker and your card is complete!

See page 83 for templates. *

TEMPLATES FOR BIRTHDAY TREAT KNITTED CARDS

ALL MEASUREMENTS ARE IN CM



EXCLUSIVE: AUGUST PATTERN PREVIEW

Don't miss next month's pattern collection

- Cotton dress for day or night
- PLUS**
- Cool summer top and a casual shawl
- Elegant short-sleeved cardigan
- Nursery motif patchwork throw
- Cute textured jumper for your baby
- Fabulous felted cot mobile
- Bear hug teddy and more

AUGUST ISSUE
OF KNITTING
IS ON SALE
12 JULY

Ask Jean

Your queries answered by Jean Moss



STAR LETTER

Top tips

Q I'm always happy to find great knitting tips in Knitting. I used to knit years ago and could do most of the stitches back then, but I've forgotten quite a lot. I'd love more explanations, especially for phrases like yarn back (yb), yarn forward (yf), yarn round needle (yrn), slip one (st 1), slip one purlwise (sl 1 pw) and pass slipped stitch over (pss0). Could you also remind me what it means when there are two stars at the beginning of a pattern?

Caroline Loalkusz, Raynes Park, London

A Thanks for highlighting this problem, Caroline, knitting terminology can be a minefield and often creates panic in new and returning knitters! Yarn overs (yo, yb, yf, yon, yrn, yfrn) all achieve the same result ie a lacy stitch or eyelet is made by placing the yarn over the

sponsored by
artesano

needle. The different abbreviations reflect where the yarn is starting from ie either at the back or the front of the knitting. Here's how they work:



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY LEIBER

The Jessica sweater uses the 'yarn over' technique and the Tabitha scarf pattern involves asterisks.
From *Couture Knits* by Jean Moss, published by GMC Publications, October 2006, ISBN 1-86108-404-8, £17.95. Tel 01273 488 005.

Star letter kit giveaway

Caroline Loalkusz is this month's star letter winner. She wins an Artesano Brittany Needles set of five needles worth £22.50. Each month Artesano will be giving away a kit to the star query published.

To be in with a chance to win a kit send your queries to:
Ask Jean, Knitting,
GMC Publications Ltd,
86 High Street, Lewes,
East Sussex, BN7 1XN
or email
katiea@thegmcgroup.com

Note: Jean regrets that she cannot enter into any personal correspondence with readers and can only answer letters that are chosen for publication in Knitting.



1. Between a knit and a purl stitch

Nothing is needed other than to purl the next stitch without bringing the yarn to the front of the work (yo).



ILLUSTRATION BY SIMONE BOYD

Between two knit stitches

Bring yarn from back to front of work between the two needles.

Knit next st, bringing yarn to back over right needle.

Nature v nurture

Views from the knitting front line. This month: NATURAL VS SYNTHETIC YARN

Stephanie Mann dreams of cashmere

Ah, the joy I feel when fondling a skein of alpaca, a ball of merino or a hank of kid mohair... And the thought of ever affording pure cashmere makes me completely giddy!

OK, that might be a tad over the top, but the truth is I would rather go for 'natural' wool over synthetic if I can afford it. Don't get me wrong, I know that the modern market for synthetics is huge and varied and that everyone would find something that floats their boat for an affordable price. It's just not for me. Let me explain.

I knitted a scarf for my brother as one of my first projects (heads up to the Brighton Borders Stitch 'n' Bitch girls for helping me through that one. Thank you ladies!) It was traumatic. It was also squeaky, due to the fact that I could only find a suitable shade of luminous green in the 100% pure plastic aisle of the local haberdashery. My brother, however, loved the end result. But I vowed never again to knit with a yarn that squeaked more than a shoebox full of mice.

As I was skint, I looked on eBay for some discounted goodies and came across some beauties – handspun, hand dyed, natural goodness. I admit: I spent a fortune. But it was worth it for the soft loveliness, the amazing changes in colour when I knitted with it and the thought that I was knitting with something natural. I also enjoy knitting without sound effects.

I harbour a secret desire to one day run my own wool farm, in which I maintain a peaceful Utopia centred entirely around me spinning and knitting, surrounded by frolicking goats, sheep, alpaca and some form of angora rabbit. That's not irrational at all, is it?



While Sandra Hill is sympathetic for synthetic

If you think that all synthetic yarns are of the eyelash variety and only good for scarf making, then it's time to think again. Gone are the days of scratchy bri-nylon yarns that made you overheat and break out in a rash as soon as the sun came out. In their place we now have a huge range of yarns in gorgeous textures and bright vibrant colours.

One of my main bugbears with natural yarns is the hanks. They may look artistic, but once I've decided on a pattern and bought my yarn I want to start knitting straight away. I don't want to have to spend hours wrestling with tangled hanks that I've shoved onto a chair back before I've even taken my needles out of their case.

And then there's the vegetation to contend with. Once you start knitting your precious wool, you find what appear to be twigs and plant material caught up in the fibres. Is this a deliberate plan to give us the impression that only last week these yarns were still being worn by the sheep out on the hillside?

A major scoring point for synthetics is that you can throw them in the washing machine and they come out just the same as they went in. Surely I'm not the only person who has gently coaxed their pure wool garment into a bowl of barely lukewarm water, and, having hardly moved it around in the tub, found that it has started felting wildly all on its own? Synthetic yarns have a vibrancy and consistency of colour that can't be matched

by hand dyed yarns. I once made a shawl from an organic yarn which looks as if I've used a hotchpotch of dye lots. It has since been consigned to the dressing-up box.

Natural organics? I'll stick to synthetics, thanks.

Do you agree or disagree with our knitters? Email katiea@thegmcgroup.com



Wool wonderland

Ex-supermarket checkout girl Aileen Gurton has turned her passion for knitting into a successful business with Cheshire-based yarn shop, Wool. The mother-of-three quit her job to open the stylish and modern shop, having been a keen knitter since the age of eight. Stocked with all the latest yarns and offering a range of popular knitting workshops, Wool has had a fantastic first year. The shop also stocks a range of beautiful buttons, both vintage and new, as well as hand painted wooden needles, ribbons, accessories and inspiring patterns and kits. Visit Wool at 6 Market Place, Stockport, phone 01614 803 062 or log on to www.knitwool.co.uk

Crafty kids' stuff

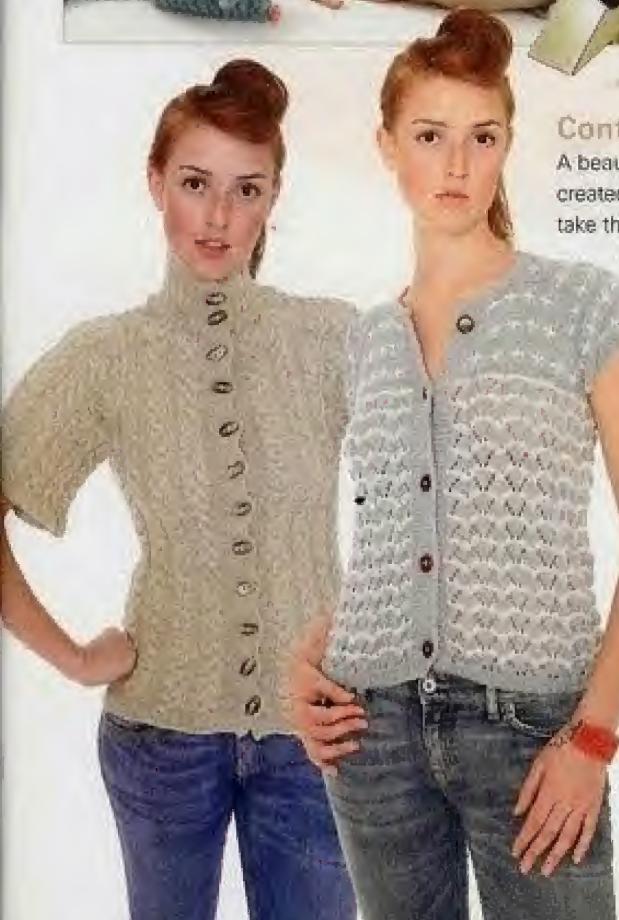
For gorgeous gift ideas and a great way for youngsters to start knitting, there's plenty in store at The Little Experience, a West Sussex-based company that produces creative projects and ideas for children to make and do. There are some extra-cute Knit-It kits including sweet

coloured mice and curly sheep, and even the inside of the packaging can be made into an accessory for the finished toy. Each kit includes the yarn, needles and stuffing, plus stars for personality and felt hearts for love. For stockists phone 01903 889 500 or buy online at www.the-little-experience.com



Contemporary classics

A beautifully chic knitwear collection has been created by designer, Nicky Dupont, and is set to take the knitting world by storm. Nicky's work is inspired by 1940's sophisticated glamour and is also influenced by her days growing up in Dorset with the use of traditional fisherman's knits and real buttons from the southern county. Nicky incorporates the finest materials into her designs, including British wool, shell and horn in addition to wood, buttons and bamboo. Her colours are based on natural tones and every piece is hand knitted by skilled craftsmen in small communities. The garments even have a celebrity following as Sienna Miller, Donna Air and Tamara Beckwith are all fans. For stockists and more details phone 08450 941 686 or visit www.nickydupont.co.uk



Knits on the net

Web users will love 10,000 Great Ideas, a brand new website dedicated to the world of yarn craft. Everything is covered, from knitting and crochet to wool and spinning, and there's a whole host of tips, patterns, reviews and even short stories for inspiration. It's a great opportunity for people without their own websites to publish their thoughts and ideas, plus it's a way for new designers to promote themselves. If you have an idea or pattern you'd like to share on the site, simply register and post it using the submission wizard. Visit now at www.10000greatideas.com



She did it!

Congratulations to Susie Hewer who now holds the Guinness World Record for the longest scarf knitted whilst running a marathon. She successfully completed the Flora London Marathon on 22 April to raise money for the Alzheimer's Research Trust and her scarf officially measured 1.20m. Susie, who was interviewed live on the BBC by former triple jump champion Jonathan Edwards, will also be running the SIS South Downs Marathon on 16 June and the 50 Mile Challenge on 15 July. To keep up to date with all her future fundraising events or to make a donation, log on to www.justgiving.com/extremeredhead

Floral fundraiser

This pretty forget-me-not pattern has been designed by Nora Bellows of Noni to support women who are fighting or have lost their lives to breast cancer. Nora was inspired to create the pattern when she was contacted by fellow designer, Dorret Conway, and asked to design a flower to decorate Dorret's bra for the Walk the Walk Edinburgh Moonwalk 2007 on 17 June. Now, the pattern is available with all proceeds from sales going to the Susan G Komen foundation in America and Walk the Walk in the UK. Visit www.nonipatterns.com for stockists.



Nori



ROWAN

KNITTING & CROCHET

Magazine 41 Spring/Summer 2007



ROWAN



Find a store

Visit knitrowan.com for your local stockist or call +44 (0)1484 681881



Shop online at knitrowan.com

Order quickly, easily and securely all day, everyday



Call

+44 (0)1484 681881

Our Customer Services can take your order and help with queries.

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Get inspired

Soda Stream

Add some fizz to your knitting with this mouth-watering mix of thirst quenchers.

By Emma Brown



1. Wendy Peter Pan DK in 1324 Blueberry Ice
www.angelyarns.com

2. Patons Symphony in 020 Fruit Crush
www.coatscrafts.co.uk

3. Rooster Almerino DK in Smoothie
www.roosteryarns.com

4. Crystal Palace Bunny Hop in 1240 Limeade
www.hantexcrafts.co.uk

5. Be Sweet Medium Boucle in Orange Fizz
www.besweetproducts.com

6. Rowan Cotton Rope in 060 Lemonade
www.kntrowan.com

7. Gynamic Felted 100% in 9225
Strawberry Soda
www.hantexcrafts.co.uk

8. Blue Sky Alpacas Brushed Suri in 907
Pink Lemonade
www.blueskyalpacas.com

Raspberry Smoothie
fur-trimmed top,
South West Trading
Company,
www.soyssilk.com

Cocktail motif, 34p, Josy
Rose, 0845 450 1212,
www.josyrose.com

Kool Aid fruit
drinks (and yarn
dyes) 45p each,
www.koolaiduk.com

Pop bag from Beach Cool
by Lois Daykin, £5.50,
Rowan, 01484 681 881,
www.knitrowan.com

Pink Lemonade
crochet bikini,
£92.63,
www.ujena.co.uk

Knifty Knitter felted bottle
cozy, Lion Brand Yarn.,
www.lionbrand.com

Raspberry Crush
Toho triangle bead
mix from £2.65,
G J Beads,
01736 751 070,
www.gjbeads.com

Blackcurrant Fizz
seed bead mix from
£1.85, G J Beads,
01736 751 070,
www.gjbeads.com

Orange crocheted tote bag
by Angie Polson,
www.roslittlethings.com

Heartfelt
Expressions
baskets and
coasters, Fiber Trends,
www.fibertrends.com

Kid Merino Strawberry Soda socks
pattern by Cathy Gammill for
Crystal Palace Yarns, BT754 520 880,
www.zhamtexcrafts.co.uk

Knitted wine warmers by
Kate Samphier, £24.50,
www.velvetboutique.co.uk

Cherry Fizz soda pop-top
crochet shoulder bag by Neida
Ambrosio, Novica,
<http://handbags.novica.com>

knitgrrl

LEARN TO KNIT
WITH 15 FUN
AND FUNKY
PROJECTS



Shannon Okey



Knitted soda cozy from
Knit Grrl by Shannon Okey,
£5.99, GMC Publications,
01273 488 005,
www.thegmcgroup.com



140 TOP STYLES

35 FAB YARNS

30 TECHNIQUES

July 2007 Issue 39
£3.75 (\$10.95 Can)

Knitting

Summer **STYLE**

14 knits for fun
in the sun

Quick projects

- Knitted Roland Rabbit
- Retro Chic clutch bag
- Mexican Wave table set
- Calypso headband & belt

Try it today

- Make fancy stitches
- Create novelty edgings

Easy knits for little kids

Exclusive interview with
Catherine Tough

Design & Win!

5 Alpaca kits up for
grabs in our animal
knits competition



www.thegmcgroup.com



A GMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE